

Hafa Adai!

Fund wants to intervene in PSS suit vs Torres, Atalig. **PAGE 2**  
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# Saipan Tribune

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## Temporary work visas suspended

By IVA MAURIN  
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REPORTER

» **Immigrant visa ban extended**

President Donald J. Trump has temporarily suspended the entry of certain foreign workers to the United States until Dec. 31,

2020, supposedly to protect American workers suffering due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a proclamation Trump signed Monday, the administration extended a ban on green cards issued outside the United States until the end of the year and added many tem-

porary work visas to the freeze such as H-1B or H-2B visas, which are given to temporary workers performing services or labor of a temporary or seasonal nature; L visas for intra-

company transferees, and J visas given to physicians, professors, scholars, teachers, and exchange visitors.

While the temporary suspension is set to expire on Dec. 31, it may be continued as needed. "Within 30 days of June 24, 2020, and every

60 days thereafter while this proclamation is in effect, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Labor, recommend any modifications as may be necessary," the proclamation states.

The administration describes the move as a way to help many unemployed

See VISAS on Page 4



### PRIDE MONTH

The CNMI Office of the Governor held its first Pride Month virtual proclamation signing ceremony yesterday via Zoom and Facebook Live, declaring June 2020 as CNMI Pride Month. The LGBTQ+ community celebrates Pride Month every year during the month of June. Pride Marianas Youth will also host a Ride4Pride Marianas on Saturday, June 27. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres became the first CNMI governor to proclaim Pride Month in the Marianas last 2016.

Story on Page 6

### 'Focus is to strengthen domestic economy'

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrera@saipantribune.com  
CORRESPONDENT

While July 15 is the target to bring back tourists to the CNMI, island businesses are opening up cautiously while managing expectations in this new normal of the COVID-19 pandemic. Right now, the CNMI is under Level Blue, just a step away from the safest Green level, lifting more restrictions and allowing both businesses and consumers to find their way back into restarting the economy and

See FOCUS on Page 4



Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios.  
BEA CABRERA

### A chance to show the CNMI to the world

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A YouTube influencer with 2.31 million subscribers, who has allied with the Marianas

Visitors Authority to promote the CNMI, said he will make it his mission to show the world what unique features make up the CNMI as he tours the Northern Islands.

Robert Arrington, who hosts the YouTube channel *Deer Meat for Dinner* with his wife and arrived on Saipan over the weekend, said in a

See CHANCE on Page 4

### 'I will work to get other workers covered'

By IVA MAURIN  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kili-li C. Sablan (Ind-MP) has asked U.S. Labor Secretary Eugene Scalia to become directly involved in the question of whether legal



Sablan

foreign workers in the CNMI can receive federal unemployment aid.

"It is important that everyone in the Marianas who lost work because of

the coronavirus get help," said Sablan in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

In a letter dated June 12, Sablan informed Scalia of his concern that in the absence of a Commonwealth unemployment insurance law, foreign workers that are law-

See WORKERS on Page 4

### AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, June 23, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	222	3	225
Recovered	173	1	174
Active	43	3	46
Deaths	6*	0	6*
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			10,567

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	30	0	30
Active	1	0	1
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			8,169**

\*Total includes a sailor from the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

\*\*Total includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

### INSIDE



#### BUSINESS

New Majestic Restaurant in Garapan finds its footing after creating a Facebook page.

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#### NATION

Surges in coronavirus cases across the U.S. is raising fears that the outbreak is out of control.

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#### ASIA

India's coronavirus caseload has risen to 425,282 as infections soar in rural areas.

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Local

Fund wants to intervene in PSS suit vs Torres, Atalig

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The NMI Settlement Fund asked the Superior Court yesterday to be allowed to intervene in a lawsuit filed by the Public School System and Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada against Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Finance Secretary David Atalig.

The NMI Settlement Fund’s lawyer, Nicole M. Torres-Ripple, said they have an interest in the subject of this proceeding, that it is entitled to the funds at issue, pursuant to the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson’s class action, and that PSS’ complaint will

impair the Settlement Fund’s ability to protect its interests. She added that the CNMI government does not adequately represent the Settlement Fund in this proceeding.

At a status conference yesterday afternoon, NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce Tang, who appeared with lawyer Dean Manglona via video conference, informed the court that they just filed the motion to intervene. The parties’ counsel told the court that they have not seen Settlement Fund’s motion. This prompted Superior Court Associate

Judge Joseph N. Camacho to continue the status conference to Friday at 2:30pm to allow the lawyers to read the motion.

Torres-Ripple filed an entry of appearance as counsel for the Settlement Fund in PSS and Ada’s lawsuit last Monday and filed the Fund motion to intervene yesterday. Just before she did that, Camacho noted that there is no motion to intervene or other mechanism before the court for the Settlement Fund to join the case. Tang lives in Guam, while Torres-Ripple lives in the CNMI.



Torres-Ripple

In his order on Monday, Camacho said that, as a courtesy to Tang, he would allow Torres-Ripple to be present in the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom’s “well” and use Torres-Ripple’s cellphone to connect with Guam at the status conference yesterday afternoon. A courtroom’s “well” is where the parties and attorneys in a case sit during a hearing. If necessary, Camacho said, he may ask the Settlement Fund their position and posture on entering the lawsuit.

Camacho ordered the court’s clerk to coordinate with the Settlement Fund to appear telephonically at the status conference, which was set for yesterday afternoon.

Torres-Ripple on Monday requested the court to allow her and Tang to appear telephonically at the status conference. Torres-Ripple said she and Tang asked to appear by telephone due to travel restrictions and other circumstances resulting from COVID-19. Torres-Ripple also requested the court to serve her all notices and other documents in this case.

PSS and Ada are suing

Torres and Atalig to guarantee for PSS an annual budget of not less than 25% of the Commonwealth’s general revenue. PSS and Ada, through counsel Tiberius Mocanu, alleged that Torres is in violation of the NMI Constitution because he is carrying out payments and collections under this fiscal year’s budget law, Public Law 21-08. PSS and Ada also alleged that Atalig is in violation of the NMI Constitution because every allotment and disbursement made pursuant to P.L. 21-08 is unconstitutional. PSS and Ada asked the court to declare P.L. 21-08 unconstitutional.


In their answer to the lawsuit, Torres and Atalig, through the Office of the Attorney General, said the governor’s actions are licensed by the state of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-04, pursuant to the CNMI Constitution, the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Act, and the CNMI Emergency Health Powers Act of 2003.

The OAG asserted, among other things, that the budgetary modifications ordered


by Torres are required by the statute and that the plaintiffs’ request would require the governor to violate the law and is thus illegal.

The OAG said PSS and Ada do not understand the CNMI Supreme Court’s ruling on how to determine between general revenue and special revenue.

Assistant attorney general John P. Lowrey earlier said that PSS and Ada are asking the Superior Court to declare five funds and associated sources of revenues as “general” rather than “special.” Those five funds include revenues collected from taxes on gross revenue set aside to make payments under a settlement agreement; revenues collected from hotel and container taxes set aside for the NMI Retirement Funds; revenue collected from e-gaming licensing fees set aside for the NMI Retirement Funds; revenues collected from e-gaming licensing fees set aside for the first, second, and third senatorial districts; and revenues collected from the jackpot tax set aside for the PSS technical education fund.



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS**  
**HOUSING CORPORATION**



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or after July 08, 2020, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/ Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Renovation and Expansion of the Tanapag Youth Center	Construct new extension building; Rehabilitate existing building.	Tanapag, Saipan	\$200,000.00

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by July 08, 2020, 4:30 P.M., will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.


**RELEASE OF FUNDS**

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.


**OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/  
Ralph DLG Torres  
Governor, CNMI



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**Office of the Secretary of Public Works**  
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



**ADDENDUM NO. 1**  
**June 22, 2020**

**DPW20-RFP-004; Engineering and Design Related Services for Route 317 (Gualo Rai Road) Improvement, Saipan**

- General: the following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specifications and drawings shall apply to the work affected thereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised of the information contained herein. In the event of a conflict between drawings, specifications and this Addendum, the contents of this Addendum shall govern. All further conflicts in the work resulting from, or caused by, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for resolution. Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum in accordance with instructions may subject your Proposal to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).
- Proposals must be sealed and marked “DPW20-RFP-004”. For proposers located within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time July 8, 2020. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time July 8, 2020, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to a.magofna@dof.gov.mp. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposers must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of foreign country no later than July 8, 2020-AND must be received no later than July 21, 2020. Noted that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All other requirements of the Request for Proposals the project package shall remain as stated.

/s/ James A. Ada  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ Francisco C. Aguon  
Acting Director, P & S

END OF ADDENDUM NO.1



# Pacific Rim wants IPI's ability to pay \$6.9M examined

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Pacific Rim Land Development LLC has asked the federal court to examine the ability of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC to pay the court's \$6.9-million judgment against the casino operator.

In its motion for order in aid of judgment filed in court Monday, Pacific Rim, through counsel Colin M. Thompson,

asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to also determine the fastest manner in which IPI can pay the unpaid balance of the judgment and to establish a payment schedule.

This developed as IPI, through counsel Michael Dotts, asked the District Court Monday to deny Pacific Rim's third application for a writ of execution that seeks a court order to allow the sale of IPI's property in the Imperial Pacific

Resort & Casino in Garapan to satisfy the judgment. Pacific Rim is looking at IPI property such as furniture, fixtures, equipment, cash, and vehicles in the casino resort.

Dotts said IPI has satisfied about \$3.1 million of the judgment following the court's first and second writs of execution, but the \$6.9 million has not been satisfied in full. Thus, Dotts pointed out, Pacific Rim must apply for an order

in aid of judgment. Dotts said Pacific Rim failed to apply under the applicable CNMI statute, so the court should deny the third application for writ of execution because of this deficiency.

The lawyer said IPI has a wide variety of assets that can be sold under the direction of the court to satisfy the judgment. "Grabbing furniture and equipment and vehicles does not comport with the process under the Commonwealth statute," he added.

In Pacific Rim's motion for order in aid of judgment, Thompson certified that the court entered the court's

amended judgment on May 28, 2020, against IPI for \$6,909,333. As of the date of this motion, the unpaid balance of the judgment is \$6,090,333 plus interest, he added.

Thompson said Pacific Rim is applying for an order requiring IPI to appear to furnish information to aid in enforcement of the money judgment.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona earlier granted Pacific Rim's petitions for first and second writ of execution that ordered the U.S. Marshals Service to seize IPI's money from four banks and two title companies on Saipan to satisfy the \$6.9-million judgment.

Last April 27, Manglona entered a judgment in favor of Pacific Rim in the amount of \$5.65 million against IPI for breach of promissory note. She later amended this to incorporate pre-judgment interest and attorneys' fees. The amended judgment is now in the amount of \$6.9 million, plus post-judgment interest.

IPI has appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to reverse Manglona's judgment.

Pacific Rim is suing IPI for the work it did on IPI's casino resort, which it said remains unpaid. IPI has countersued.

# MLSC sets free legal helpline for Mangkhut, Yutu survivors

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. remains open for business while still doing its part to stop the spread of the coronavirus. With a new Disaster Legal Aid Program, the office is fully open and ready to provide services to those who have unresolved legal issues related to Typhoon Mangkhut or Super Typhoon Yutu.

Your legal questions may involve Federal Emergency Management Agency/Small Business Administration appeals, construction/home repair issues, debt collection, probate, clearing or proving title issues, unemployment insurance or stimulus payments/other benefits, family law, consumer

issues, guardianship, rent payments and more.

MLSC has established a new Disaster Legal Helpline. Here's what you can expect from this service:

- We will do our best to help you on the spot. Recognizing that most legal issues are somewhat complicated, if we can't help you on the spot, we will call you back within 24 hours. Our goal in providing the Disaster Legal Helpline is to:
- Assess your legal issue, and provide legal information and/or referrals.
- If your matter is one that can be resolved with legal advice, we will screen to see if

you meet our eligibility guidelines (income, assets, etc.), and if you are eligible, we will provide legal advice on the phone to the best of our ability.

- If your legal issue is one that we can help with, but you need more help than we can provide over the phone, we'll set an appointment to discuss your matter in detail.
- How to reach us:
- Helpline #s (670) 235-0027 Saipan ▪ (670) 285-6410 Tinian ▪ (670) 284-0581 Rota
- Email hotline: disaster@mlscnet.org
- Video chat: WhatsApp, Google Hangouts, Skype (Facebook coming soon!)

MLSC has served the people of Micronesia for over 45 years with an open door policy. (PR)

**CONTACT INFO**

Saipan: **(670) 235-0027**  
Tinian: **(670) 285-6410**  
Rota: **(670) 284-0581**

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### CUC-IFB-20-023

#### CHINA TOWN WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of China Town Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; relocation of water meters from private property to right-of-way, installation of gate valve assembly, air release valves, fire hydrant assembly, flush hydrants; existing lateral service tap relocation; restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.*

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 25, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-20-023, China Town Water Line Replacement Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2020**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

*A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*


All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 30, 2020** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Ms. Kirztie Alley Reyes, CUC Water/Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email [kirztie.reyes@cucgov.org](mailto:kirztie.reyes@cucgov.org) and Ms. Christie L. Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Technician Senior via email [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org)

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Draft 2021-2025 Section 309 Assessment and Strategy Request for Public Comment

DATE: June 16, 2020

NOTICE: This is to notify the general public that the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) is seeking input on its **DRAFT 2021-2025 Section 309 Assessment and Strategy Report**. Every five years, states and territories are encouraged to conduct self-assessments of their coastal management programs to strengthen and improve their federally approved coastal management programs in one or more of nine enhancement areas.

These enhancement areas include aquaculture, coastal hazards, cumulative and secondary impacts, energy and government facility siting, marine debris, ocean and Great Lakes resources, public access, special area management plans, and wetlands. Each program identifies high-priority management issues and important needs and information gaps the program must fulfill to address these issues.

The draft document can be accessed at the following link: [https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/CNMI\\_Section309v.5\\_06.12.20\\_DRAFT\\_Clean.pdf](https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/CNMI_Section309v.5_06.12.20_DRAFT_Clean.pdf).

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM office at the Gualo Rai Center on Middle Road, by email at [planning@dcrm.gov.mp](mailto:planning@dcrm.gov.mp), and by phone at (670) 664-8318. It is the agency's intent to include all written and oral comments received during this comment period. Feedback obtained through this process will inform the development of the final version of the document.

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO  
Director  
Division of Coastal Resources Management



# House committee starts review of OT and COVID-19 contracts

By IVA MAURIN  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The House of Representatives' Special Committee on Federal Assistance and Disaster Related Funding began yesterday its review of the documents related to awarded contracts, newly-hired employees, and government overtime payments related to the CNMI's COVID-19 emergency and response.

The lawmakers divided among themselves their assignments in reviewing the documents: House floor leader Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) initially looked into the Category B forms listing personnel and jobs under the operations; Rep. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) into documents on the Cabinet members' overtime and extra pay, along with the payouts; Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan) into the listing of the check registers; and Rep. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan) into

the contracts.

Sablan said her initial review of the documents show that the earlier statements of administration officials about the overtime payments "were misrepresentations of facts."

"We need to do a little more digging and really get to the bottom of how much has been paid out and, and where we go from there..." Sablan said in an interview after their initial review.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said in early June that he has signed all of the Cabinet members' request for overtime, following a leaked document showing a request and authorization for 41 hours of overtime work for Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert A. Guerrero. At that time, the governor also mentioned that no payment has been paid yet.

The floor leader also stressed the importance of reviewing each and every contract, where Guerrero

raised that attachments should be provided, as mentioned on the purchase requisition documents.

Looking into one of the requests, Guerrero asked, "They just put down 'personal services.' Be more specific, what is the personal service that was done? If we are talking \$1.4 million, I want to know."

Guerrero also wanted to dig into the money spent on preparing the former Mariana Resort & Spa, as a secondary quarantine facility, and its current status.

"What's the purpose of prepping and if it's not going to be maximized? We need to know all the costs associated to get the Mariana Resort to the standards that the COVID-19 Task Force would recommend that it's a go for the resort to be utilized," he added.

The special committee has yet to receive more documents, including the official check registry from the Department of Finance, as well

as additional payroll information, which the committee members intend to use to cross check additional salaries.

The legislators will be meeting again on July 1, Wednesday, to further discuss their reviews. Among

those they intend to hear from are the governor's authorized representative, the Department of Finance, the Office of Budget and Management, the Department of Public Lands, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

## FOCUS

From Page 1

many are looking at this as a way for everybody to adapt to new ways of doing things.

"I don't think we will be able to welcome tourists yet unless we reach Level Green," said Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios.

"...Everyone from the business side is still getting back to their feet. Most of them are working on regulations required to function in this new normal that is being imposed for everyone's safety—from the employees down to their customers and the community," she said. "Personally, I think the right view is to focus and strengthen the domestic economy right now. ...Most businesses are still trying to get back to their routine after being closed for two or three months. I know many are also working on their loans, whether it is the Paycheck Protection Program, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, or Economic Injury Disaster Loan."

According to Palacios, beefing up the domestic economy also means bringing back workers to their jobs and helping those who were displaced for a while. "When the loans come, this will give people spending power and use it in the community. ...This will generate money from

within that can help fuel businesses and put people back at work, she said.

"I know there are some businesses that are contemplating whether to open or not and wait for the tourists to come. These businesses are highly dependent on tourists and are thinking that maybe it might just cost more to open now while there are still no tourists," she added.

Palacios said the Council of Economic Advisers that Gov. Ralph

DLG Torres created the last month would help find focus and give recommendations to help out businesses and jumpstart the domestic economy. "There are still a lot of things to do," she said.

At the international level, for the CNMI to welcome back tourists smoothly and safely, "we have to work with the governments where we [get our] tourists from. We are dependent on Korea, Japan, and China but, as far as the Chinese are concerned, President Trump has not lifted the ban to have China flights resume services."

At the same time, Palacios said that the CNMI needs to hammer out a clear agreement with the CNMI's source-market governments about quarantine because "who would want to come here and get quarantined when their vacation is very limited?"

"This is one of the many things our government and the COVID-19 Task Force would have to look into to protect the community," Palacios added.



Palacios

## VISAS

From Page 1

Americans, who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "The overall unemployment rate in the United States nearly quadrupled between February and May of 2020, producing some of the most extreme unemployment ever recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. While the May rate of 13.3% reflected a marked decline from April, millions of Americans remain out of work," the proclamation states.

### Who are affected?

The suspension and limitation on entry only apply to foreigners who are outside the U.S., or who do not have non-immigrant visas valid on June 22, 2020, the effective date of proclamation.

The suspension also applies to foreigners who do not have an official travel document other than a visa (such as a transportation letter, an appropriate boarding foil, or an advance parole document) that is valid on June 22, 2020, or issued on any date after, that permit them to travel to the U.S. and seek entry or admission.

Exempted from the suspension and limitation are U.S. lawful permanent residents, and any foreigner who is

the spouse or a child of a U.S. citizen.

The suspension and limitation also do not apply to foreigners seeking to enter the U.S. to provide temporary labor or services essential to the U.S. food supply chain; and foreigners whose entry would be in the national interest, as determined by the secretary of State or secretary of Homeland Security.

Foreigners who circumvent the application through fraud, willful misrepresentation, or illegal entry will be deemed a priority for removal by the Department of Homeland Security.

The administration clarified that individuals can still seek asylum, refugee status, withholding of removal, or protection under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, consistent with the laws of the United States.

### Protecting American workers

The proclamation noted that under ordinary circumstances, temporary worker programs can provide benefits to the economy, but that under the extraordinary circumstances of the economic contraction due to the pandemic, certain nonimmigrant employment visa programs pose an "unusual threat" to the employment of American workers.

Trump also extended the immi-

gration ban he imposed last April 22, putting a hold on green cards, to protect American workers amid the coronavirus outbreak. The proclamation states that this move will benefit historically disadvantaged groups, including African Americans and other minorities, those without a college degree, and persons with disabilities.

In an earlier interview, CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said that the department is working to match people in the right jobs, and do training for the local community, especially with the exodus of workers due to the pandemic.

"We, as the Department of Labor, are trying to employ people in the jobs that are suited for them. We will help our citizens retrain to get the skills they need, especially in this time. The economy is changing, industries are changing. My focus is, yes, if you need to get a job, I'm going to help you."

Benavente, however, also recognized the role foreign workers play in the CNMI, adding that they are a critical component of the CNMI economy.

"Without foreign workers, we wouldn't have much of an economy. So we're going to balance both the needs of our people, with the needs of our employers," she added. (With AP)

extra precautions were made during their travel, such as not sitting too close to people and wearing masks all the time. "They give you hand sanitizing packets the second you get on the plane so you wipe everything down. They're not serving how they normally do, but they instead give you baggies with small items that you want to eat. So they're not touching every individual thing," she said. "They're just taking the proper steps so that everyone stays safe."

Robert Arrington stated that his trip to Rota will be one that he won't ever forget, and he knew that if he has the chance to visit Rota again, he will bring his family. He and his wife brought their two daughters, Emma, 2, and Aria, 4.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be accompanying Arrington, his family, and crew to Maug, one of the islands that make up in the Northern Islands. Arrington added that he will be using drones to capture an islandwide view and specific cameras that will allow him and his crew to capture underwater footage.

"Gov. Torres has never been to the island of Maug, so he and I are going to go there, hike to the top of Maug, we're going to put a CNMI flag and American flag...and we're going to make a bond that lasts a lifetime," he said.

His wife, Sarah Arrington, assured that the Arrington family and their crew got tested for COVID-19 before traveling and are negative. She said

## CHANCE

From Page 1

television interview that he wants to put all the faces of the people who make up the CNMI on his YouTube channel in hopes to create more tourists for the CNMI, especially the Northern Islands.

"Whenever I would go home and mention the CNMI, no one knew what that was," said Arrington. "Rota, Saipan, Tinian, [and] the Northern Islands, no one even knew that that existed." With his planned YouTube videos of the CNMI, Arrington said he wants to make the CNMI a place that people, all over the world will want to visit.

## WORKERS

From Page 1

fully present in the Marianas but are now laid off because of COVID-19 are excluded from the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.

"These workers, as taxpayers, have generally been eligible for the Economic Impact Payments, also provided by the CARES Act," Sablan stated in the letter.

The delegate also informed the U.S. Labor secretary that the CNMI's eligibility announcement two weeks ago did not include foreigners who are lawfully present and authorized to work in the Marianas, and who would currently be working except for one of the 10 criteria for eligibility specified in Section 2102 of the CARES Act."

Sablan, however, has yet to receive a reply from the U.S. Labor secretary.

Last week, CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente reached out to Sablan in a letter dated June 15 that congressional action is needed to extend the PUI and the FPUC benefits to CWs.

In his interview with *Saipan Tri-*

bune, Sablan said that the CARES Act made no distinction with respect to immigration status and, in fact, provides a blanket waiver that PUA is to be available to people who are "not eligible for regular compensation or extended benefits under state or federal law."

"In the meantime, Marianas businesses that employ CW workers have applied and been approved for the Paycheck Protection Program, also set up by the CARES Act. PPP gives employers money to keep workers on payroll, so the workers will not even need unemployment assistance," he said.

Over 4,000 Marianas businesses are already in the Paycheck Protection Program.

"It is important that everyone in the Marianas who lost work because of the coronavirus get help," Sablan said. As unemployment assistance was being rolled out in the CNMI, the Delegate got the U.S. Department of Labor to agree that furloughed Commonwealth government employees would be covered. "I will continue to work to get other workers covered. They need something to live on. And the federal money they receive can circulate in the Marianas economy and benefit all of us," Sablan added.



# Federal judge sides with Guam resident in SSI case

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU (AP)—There’s no rational basis for denying a disabled woman supplemental Social Security benefits because she lives on Guam, while allowing her twin sister in Pennsylvania who has the same genetic disease to receive the payments, a U.S. judge in Guam ruled.

Katrina Schaller and her twin sister Leslie were born in 1970 and grew up in Pennsylvania. The sisters suffer from myotonic dystrophy, a debilitating, degenerative genetic disorder affecting muscle function and mental processing.

After their mother died in 2007, Katrina went to live with a sister on Guam and stopped receiving the federal payments, while her twin in Pennsylvania continued receiving the money.

U.S. citizens living in any territory except the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands aren’t entitled to Supplemental Security Income, known as SSI, meant to help those who are blind or disabled. The judge’s ruling issued last week said this is “illogical and irrational.”

“There is no relevant difference between Guam and the CNMI that would rationally justify the denial of SSI benefits to otherwise eligible U.S. citizens residing in Guam, benefits enjoyed by their Chamorro neigh-

## Scheduled power outage tomorrow

There will be a scheduled sectionalized power outage tomorrow, June 25, 2020, from 8:30am to 12:30pm, on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit, affecting Kannat Tabla. This will affect Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers along Honggo P1. in Kannat Tabla. No water well(s) or wastewater lift station(s) will be affected.

The purpose of the scheduled power interruption is to de-energize utility lines so that CUC linemen are able to safely replace two rotted wooden primary power poles on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit in Kannat Tabla. Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

bors just 60 miles north of and a 40-minute flight from Guam,” U.S. District Court of Guam Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood said in her ruling, referring to the indigenous people of the Mariana Islands, which include Guam. “Accordingly, the court holds that the equal protection guarantees of the Fifth Amendment forbid the arbitrary denial of SSI benefits to residents of Guam.”

Katrina’s lawyers are going to find a way for her to apply for the benefit, but expect the U.S. government will appeal the ruling, said Michael F. Williams, one of her attorneys. Government attorneys didn’t immediately respond to requests for comment Monday.

The ruling won’t automatically apply to others in similar situations because the judge only has jurisdiction over Guam, Williams said. “By its reasoning, it should apply, especially in circumstances where there are United States citizens who reside in the territories who are being denied SSI because they’re territorial residents,” he said.

In 2013, the Guam Legislature estimated that 24,000 residents could be eligible for SSI benefits if the program were extended to include Guam residents, according to the ruling.

“It’s a strong decision from the judge in what’s essentially a civil rights case. This is about access to benefits for the poorest and most needy people,” Williams said. “And there’s no reason that they should be discriminated against.”

### TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

#### AGENDA

**I. PRELIMINARY**

- a.) Call to Order
- b.) Roll Call
- c.) Adoption of Agenda
- d.) Adoption of Minutes
  - 1. March 3, 2020 – Regular Meeting
  - 2. April 17, 2020 – Special Meeting

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS<sup>1</sup>**

**III. REPORTS**

- a.) Chair’s Report
- b.) Executive Director’s Report

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Licensing Matters
  - 1. Bridge Investment Group – Update on Casino Project

**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION<sup>2</sup>**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

<sup>1</sup>Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

<sup>2</sup>Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Office of the Secretary of Public Works**  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



# PUBLIC NOTICE

The Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Department of Public Works (DPW) would like to notify the general public of the 4-Year Federal-Aid Highway Program Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) Amendment-1.

A copy of the plan can be obtained at DPW Technical Services Division Highway Branch for review and comments. Written comments must be submitted directly to DPW TSD Highway Branch, 2nd. Floor Joeten Commercial Bldg., Beach Road (above First Hawaiian Branch) or via email to: [lms.dpwtst@gmail.com](mailto:lms.dpwtst@gmail.com) no later than July 01, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Should you have any questions regarding DPW TTIP, you may contact Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Highway Administrator or Mr. Kenn Aldan, Federal Program Coordinator at the Department of Public Works TSD Highway Branch at 234-9828 or 234-9838.

The following are listed in the TTIP Amendment-1:

**I. CNMI DEPARTMENT OF Public Works Technical Services Division HIGHWAY BRANCH 4-YEAR Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment-1: PROJECTS FUNDED BY: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)**

**Amendment 1**

DISTRICT	VILLAGE	ROUTE NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF WORK	FY2020 FEDERAL	FY2021 FEDERAL	FY2022 FEDERAL	FY2023 FEDERAL
ALL	ALL	FY	Highway Planning, Technology Transfer & Training Activities Program-	Admin	\$ 975,986.00	\$ 1,417,604.20	\$ 1,931,986.00	\$ 1,644,486.00
ALL	ALL	OJTSS	On The Job Training Support Services	Admin	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00
ALL	ALL	NSTI	National Summer Transportation Institute	Admin	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
I	Songsong	10	Route 10 Drainage upgrade from Pinatang Phase II	PE-Design Construction			\$ 1,500,000.00	
I	Sinapalo	11	Route 11 - Sabana Road Improvement, Phase II	Construction		\$ 1,750,000.00		
I	Dugi	103	Route 103 - Roadway Improvements	PE Design		\$ 300,000.00		
II	San Jose	202	Route 202 - Hazard Elimination	PE Design Construction		\$ 500,000.00		
III	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Chalan Pale Arnold Hazard Elimination	PE ROW Construction CM		\$ 1,000,000.00		
	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Installation of Traffic Light System	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 2,500,000.00		
III	As Perdido	32	As Perdido Road Safety Improvements	PE Design Construction CM-DPW			\$ 200,000.00	
III	Oleai-Christo Rai	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 3 (JP Center to Oleai)	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 400,000.00		
III	Christo Rai - Micro Beach	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 4 - Roundabout	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 1,000,000.00 \$ 200,000.00		
III	Dandan	35	Route 35 - Airport Road Improvement	PE Design Construction CM-DPW	\$ 2,500,000.00			
III	Obyan	302/304	Naftan Road and Flametree Road Improvements	Env. Update Construction CM	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00 \$ 300,000.00		
III	Capitol Hill	310	Route 310 Tapochao Road and drainage Improvements	PE Design Construction CM	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00 \$ 150,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00 \$ 150,000.00	
III	Gualo Rai	317	Route 317 - Gualo Rai Road and Drainage Improvements	PE Design Construction CM-DPW			\$ 1,500,000.00	
	Island-Wide		Island-Wide Hazard Elimination, Saipan	Construction			\$ 1,500,000.00	
TOTAL OBLIGATION					\$ 4,053,486.00	\$ 13,575,104.20	\$ 8,339,486.00	\$ 1,701,986.00
Estimated Carry Over Prior Fiscal Year TOTAL:					\$ 603,225.00	\$ 14,813,805.99	\$ 5,282,001.79	\$ 985,815.79
FMIS Unobligated Funds (Closed-Out Projects/De-obligated Funds)					\$ 14,220,766.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OJTSS/NSTI					\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00
Annual Allocation:					\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00
TOTAL ALLOCATION (not including Other Funds)					\$ 18,867,291.99	\$ 18,857,105.99	\$ 9,325,301.79	\$ 5,029,115.79
TOTAL OBLIGATION (not including other funds)					\$ 4,053,486.00	\$ 13,575,104.20	\$ 8,339,486.00	\$ 1,701,986.00
FISCAL ALLOCATION TO HQ (Not including Other Funds)					\$ 14,813,805.99	\$ 5,282,001.79	\$ 985,815.79	\$ 3,327,129.79
TOTAL ALLOCATION - other (ER, Special Funds, etc.)								



# MCS hosts traditional graduation during COVID-19

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Mount Carmel School has gotten the distinction of being the first school in the CNMI to host a traditional graduation ceremony amid the current COVID-19 pandemic, with strict social distancing measures in place.

According to MCS spokesperson Victoria Deleon Guerrero, MCS held a traditional commencement ceremony last Saturday but limited the event to invitation-only to abide by community guidelines.

"To ensure the MCS commencement ceremony followed the current capacity limitations, each graduate was given four tickets for invited guests. Remaining participants were limited to essential staff and security," she said.

MCS had 46 graduating seniors and each senior was only allowed to invite four members of their families to attend the ceremony at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. The event was also livestreamed on Facebook.

MCS principal Barbara K.



The Mount Carmel School graduating class attends a baccalaureate Mass at the Mount Carmel Cathedral last June 19, 2020.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Merfalen led with her opening remarks, congratulating the Class of 2020 and thanking the parents and MCS teachers and staff.

As the event's keynote speaker, MCS president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero said the Class of 2020 truly appreciates what it means to have unconditional love. "I felt it from your class officers who are trying to do the right thing with all that money you raised for your senior trip, but you

never got to go on. I even felt it from all of you when, despite all the challenges of this pandemic, you found a way to express your appreciation and your love for your teachers, your school, and each other. You loved all of us, even when we didn't love all of you, the way we should have. The adults were getting things wrong. You are getting something right," Deleon Guerrero said.

MCS Class of 2020 valedictorian was Kalea Lou Bullan Borja, while Danielle Jaden Kekoa Yamagata-Santos gained the salutatorian title.

In her valedictory speech, Borja said the Class of 2020 couldn't help but wonder and question why they are going through so many distressing situations, including the COVID-19 pandemic, which deprived them of the senior year they deserve. She is still grateful, though.

"I am grateful for the efforts the school made to continue our education despite the pandemic. Because the Class

of 2020 can persevere through typhoons and a pandemic, then we will persevere beyond what many people would expect out of us in life itself," she said.

Yamagata-Santos thanked MCS teachers and staff members for being patient with the seniors and for helping see their potential. "Ten years from now, no one would remember the students who made it to honor roll or got straight A's. Grades do not define who you are as a person. You will be remembered as the person who had a kind heart, or the person who was there for someone when they needed it the most," she said.

The following are the awards given out during MCS traditional graduation ceremony.

■ Valedictorian—Kalea Lou Bullan Borja

■ Salutatorian—Danielle Jaden Kekoa Yamagata-Santos

■ 1st Honor—Jim Michael Vergara Ham

■ 2nd Honor—Lleyton Andre Albuen Javier

■ 3rd Honor—Emmeline

Lee

■ 4th Honor—Nicole Mae F.

Pak, Katelyn Angeles Rabang

■ 5th Honor—Jeffrey Yu

Xin Chua

■ 6th Honor—Riley Ann O. Buenaventura

■ 7th Honor—Casey Jo Pathil

■ 8th Honor—Jan Matthew Pineda Millo

■ 9th Honor—Vincent John Pangelinan Reyes

■ 10th Honor—Francesca Marie Avengana Bucalig

Kekoa Yamagata-Santos

■ Mathematics—Haesu (John) Yeo

■ Social Science—Jim Michael Vergara Ham

■ Theology—Danielle Jaden Kekoa Yamagata-Santos

■ Computer Science—Casey Jo Pathil

■ Foreign Language—Julia Ikeda Taguchi

■ Art—Casey Jo Pathil

■ Physical Health Education—Matthew R. Richardson, Francesca Marie Avengana Bucalig

■ Speech—Kalea Lou Bullan Borja

■ Drama—Kalea Lou Bullan Borja

## Subject awards

■ English Language Arts—Kalea Lou Bullan Borja

■ Science—Danielle Jaden

## Ride4Pride motorcade on June 27

Pride Marianas Youth will host the 2020 Ride4Pride Marianas motorcade this Saturday, June 27, in celebration of Pride Month as a show of solidarity and support and to honor the LGBTQIA+ community in the CNMI.

Ride4Pride Marianas will start at Kan Pacific/Marpi at 12pm and end at the American Memorial Park.

According to Jennifer Maratita, president of Pride Marianas Youth, "It's time to advance human rights and push for positive social change that embraces inclusion. [Ride4Pride Marianas] honors the countless battles that have paved the way for progress and advancement of freedom."

Participants of the motorcade are advised to prepare for a three-hour ride and check in at the registration tent with the Department of Public Safety. All drivers must have a valid driver's license, valid car registration, and valid car insurance.

They should also abide by all traffic rules, observe all COVID-19 social distancing regulations and are encouraged to stay hydrated and bring snacks.

For registration and for more information click on this link: <http://bit.do/Ride4PrideRegistration2020>

June is typically celebrated as Pride Month, a declaration of self-affirmation, dignity, equality, and visibility for the LGBTQIA+ community.

"Pride is also a time to acknowledge the tremendous work that is still left for us to do. [Ride4Pride Marianas] presents an opportunity for more unity to our Marianas and for individuals to come together to support and love one another," said Maratita.

"On behalf of Pride Marianas Youth, the members of our LGBTQIA+ family, and all our partners, thank you for participating!" she added. *(Chevy Alipio)*

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**

**ITB NO.: ITB20-OGM-080**

**SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 17, 2020 TIME: 09:00 A.M.**

**"LEASE OF ONE (1) MULTIFUNCTION COPIER MACHINE FOR THE  
OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARING HOUSE"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*\*MUST USE A FACE MASK BEFORE ENTERING THE OFFICE\*\***

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.**  
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**

P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court  
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814  
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net  
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

**AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (05/29/20)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
  - Update on N.K. Hearing Case
- VIII. Investigator's Report - None
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office - None
  - B. Legislature - None
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Application
    - Pasatiempo (Physician) - Update
  - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
  - **Update:** Applicants' Employment to Practice Virtually – Legal Counsel
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH  
Chairman

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)**

(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

**NMHC IFB 2020-007**

**BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: July 13, 2020, 10:00 a.m.**

**Purchase and Installation of Modular / Prefabricated Units for Transitional Housing**

Project package will be available on June 12, 2020, at the NMHC website at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on June 25, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net). Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net) during regular business hours, 7:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director

/s/ Vinney Atalig - Hocog  
Chairman, NMHC Board of Directors

## Job Vacancy Announcement

**JOB TITLE:** ACCOUNTANT  
**HOURS:** FULL- TIME REGULAR  
**COMPANY'S NAME:** GLOBAL TRADERS, INC.  
**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:** MASON PL AS LITO, SAIPAN MP 96950  
**EMAIL ADD:** [globattispn@hotmail.com](mailto:globattispn@hotmail.com)  
**SALARY:** \$40,227.00

### Job Duties:

1. Prepare, examine, and analyze accounting records, financial statements and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
2. Compute taxes and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements.
3. Analyze business operations, costs, revenues and financial commitments and obligations.
4. Report to the management regarding the finances of the company.
5. Records and assign entries to proper accounts.
6. Maintain, analyze budgets and prepares periodic reports that compare budgeted costs to actual costs.
7. Prepares forms and manuals for accounting and bookkeeping personnel and their work activities.
8. Provide internal and external auditing services for businesses and individuals.
9. Appraise, evaluate and inventory real property and equipment, recording information as the property's description, value and location.
10. Summarizes current financial status by collecting information, preparing balance sheet, profit and loss statement, and other reports.
11. Secures financial information by completing data base backups.
12. Maintains financial security by following internal controls.
13. Prepares payments by verifying documentation and requesting disbursements.
14. Complies with federal, state, and local financial legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation, enforcing adherence to requirements and advising management on needed actions.
15. Answers accounting procedure questions by researching and interpreting accounting policy and regulations.

### Minimum Job Requirements:

1. Bachelor's degree required must be a graduate of bachelor's of science in accountancy.
2. Twenty four months of working experience is required.

### Special Requirements:

1. Must have knowledge in quick books, microsoft excel and word processing.
2. Must have math and organizational skills. Must have at least 24 months working experience with employment certification(s) on previous and/or present employer(s).

### To Apply:

Interested applicants must submit their resume with complete credentials and requirements at the office of Global Traders, Inc. at Mason PL. As Lito Saipan MP 96950 or mail to at P.O. Box 501507 Saipan MP 96950. Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.



# Auto shop sues IPI

An auto shop has joined the long list of businesses suing embattled Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC.

Yu’s LLC, which does business as Da Bao Auto Shop, is suing IPI before the Superior Court for allegedly failing to pay \$38,512 in services.

Yu’s LLC, through counsel Mark Scoggins, asked the court to hold IPI liable to pay the amount plus post-judgment interest, attorney’s fees and court costs.

As of press time Tuesday, *Saipan Tribune* was still awaiting comments from IPI.

According to Scoggins in the complaint filed last June

16, IPI engaged Da Bao Auto on numerous occasions between 2017 and 2020 to provide service to vehicles owned and or controlled by IPI. Scoggins said that Da Bao Auto has provided the requested services to IPI in good faith, and in a good and workmanlike manner. He said Da Bao Auto has invoiced each and every service to IPI, but the defendant has failed to pay all invoices submitted.

IPI is facing multiple lawsuits in federal court and Superior Court from many companies for alleged non-payment of services and other reasons. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

# CTSI sues US Veterans Affairs to collect on car shipment to Rota

CTSI Logistics Inc. is suing the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for allegedly refusing to pay \$11,041 for shipping a vehicle to Rota from Long Beach, California in 2018. CTSI is an affiliate of *Saipan Tribune*.

CTSI, through counsel Steven P. Pixley, asked the Superior Court to hold the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs liable for breach of contract and pay the amount plus attorney’s fees and court costs.

According to Pixley in the complaint filed last June 16, US DVA chief of prosthetics Aaron Williams contacted CTSI Logistics in California on Oct. 20, 2017, requesting a quotation for the shipment of a 2016 Toyota Sienna, owned by Norbert H. Mundo, a veteran residing on Rota.

Pixley said that on Nov. 16, 2017, CTSI Logistics received a signed rate quotation from US DVA.

He said Williams informed CTSI Logistics that the US DVA would pay for the shipping costs after delivery and inspection of the vehicle on Rota.

The lawyer said the vehicle was delivered to Mundo on Rota on April 8, 2018, and the executed proof of delivery and invoices were sent to US DVA on April 28, 2018.

Pixley said CTSI Logistics has repeatedly communicated with US DVA regarding payment, but it has not responded. Pixley said the defendant has breached the contract by failing to respond to communications and otherwise failing to pay CTSI. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

# Sen. Santos calls to expand deer hunting season on Rota

In a bid to help families put food on the table in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sen. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) is urging the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to temporarily stretch the deer hunting season on Rota to Dec. 31, and to increase the number of deer to be hunted per permit to two.

Under the current law, the Rota hunting season is from Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, and licensed hunters are only allowed to hunt for one Sambar deer per permit. Santos wants this expanded so it could start earlier and end later.

“Numerous government and private employees have been furloughed/terminated during this COVID-19 pandemic and are struggling to meet day-to-day needs and their financial responsibilities while dealing with the high cost of living on Rota,” said Santos. “Families on Rota have been struggling to make ends meet now more than ever. ...To help alleviate the burden of keeping food on their tables, I respectfully seek your assistance in temporarily opening the

deer season on Rota earlier and closing it later than prescribed by regulations.”

The senator also said that enforcement officers should continue to ensure that all rules and regulations are adhered to, and to strictly maintain that no hunting will be permitted within Liyo and Sabana, Rota’s designated conservation areas, and that only permitted individuals may hunt.

Aside from asking for a longer deer season, Santos also sought help from DLNR to assess the crop damage caused by deer on Rota.

“I turn to you and your experts to assess the current situation and if warranted, I ask for your assistance and understanding in opening the Rota deer season earlier so that families on Rota can avail of deer meat for personal consumption,” she said.

DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente said the department will be seeking the legal opinion of the Office of the Attorney General, prior to deciding on the senator’s request. **(Iva Maurin)**

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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, )  
v. )  
ERIC B. ATALIG and LOURDES F. ATALIG, Defendants )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0004

**AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

**Tract No. 21769-R2-5** (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

**Tract No. 21769-R2-9** (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

**Tract No. 21769-R2-10** (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

The foregoing properties contain a total area of 2,618 square meters, more or less. This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 12, 2017**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/  
Charity R. Hodson, F0487  
Attorney for CDA

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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, )  
v. )  
THE ESTATE OF HERMAN T. PALACIOS and THE ESTATE OF JOYCELYN C. PALACIOS, )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0004

AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION

**AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the

Northern Mariana Islands:

**Lot No. 001 I 13**, containing an area of 1,529 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 I 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 712, on the 1st day of March 1971, including all existing and future improvements on the said property;

This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 7, 2019**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Estate of Herman T. Palacios and Estate of Joycelyn C. Palacios.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/  
Charity R. Hodson, F0487  
Attorney for CDA

MILLER LAW OFFICE, LLC  
Richard C. Miller, Bar No. F0458  
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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, )  
v. )  
ESTATE OF VICENTE C. CASTRO, et al., Defendants. )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0078

AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION

**AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the remaining leasehold interest in the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

55-year leasehold interest, dated December 11, 1991, in:

**Tract No. EA 220-2-1-R2**, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2004/03, the original of which was recorded October 23, 2002, as Document No. 02-2147 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and containing an area of 20,001 square meters more or less.

This Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution on a leasehold interest in Part of E.A. 220, situated in Talofofo area, Saipan, entered in this action on April 19, 2016, in order to satisfy in part the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Miller Law Office, LLC, through mail with the address of PMB 372, P.O. Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to millercmlaw@protonmail.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/  
MILLER LAW OFFICE, LLC  
by Richard C. Miller, Esq.

**CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)**  
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Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, )  
v. )  
AMBROSE BENNETT, individually and dba )  
LIL & BRO'S TRIKE DEALERSHIP & RENTALS, )  
AND JUAN T. LIZAMA )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0236

AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION

**AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 031 A 01, containing an area of 1,186 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 031 A 00 dated 20 February 1985, as File No. 85-0423.

This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **July 23, 2018**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Ambrose Bennett, individual and dba Lil and Bro's Trike Dealership & Rentals, and Juan T. Lizama.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 02607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interest of Defendant Juan T. Lizama to the property is being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/  
Charity R. Hodson, F0487  
Attorney for CDA



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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### EDITORIAL

## The COVID-19 pandemic isn't over and acting like it is will only make things worse

With COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. topping the 120,000 mark this weekend and some 21 states seeing an uptick in new cases (and worse, in hospitalizations, a number that can't be dismissed as the product of more widespread testing), it would seem almost too incredible to believe that Americans think the pandemic is over. Or even no longer a threat.

That's not what we know from the experience of the past or what public health experts are telling us. Yet the signs of such a response, of a collective "well, it's time to move on," are unmistakable.

It's in Vice President Mike Pence's claim last week that there isn't a "second wave" which is correct only in that the first wave isn't finished yet. It's in the behavior of thousands who thought it a swell idea to crowd the BOK Center for a Donald Trump campaign rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Saturday even as local health officials warned against it. And it's in the growing number of Americans who refuse to wear a mask or other facial covering confusing "personal freedom" with "irresponsible, self-destructive behavior."

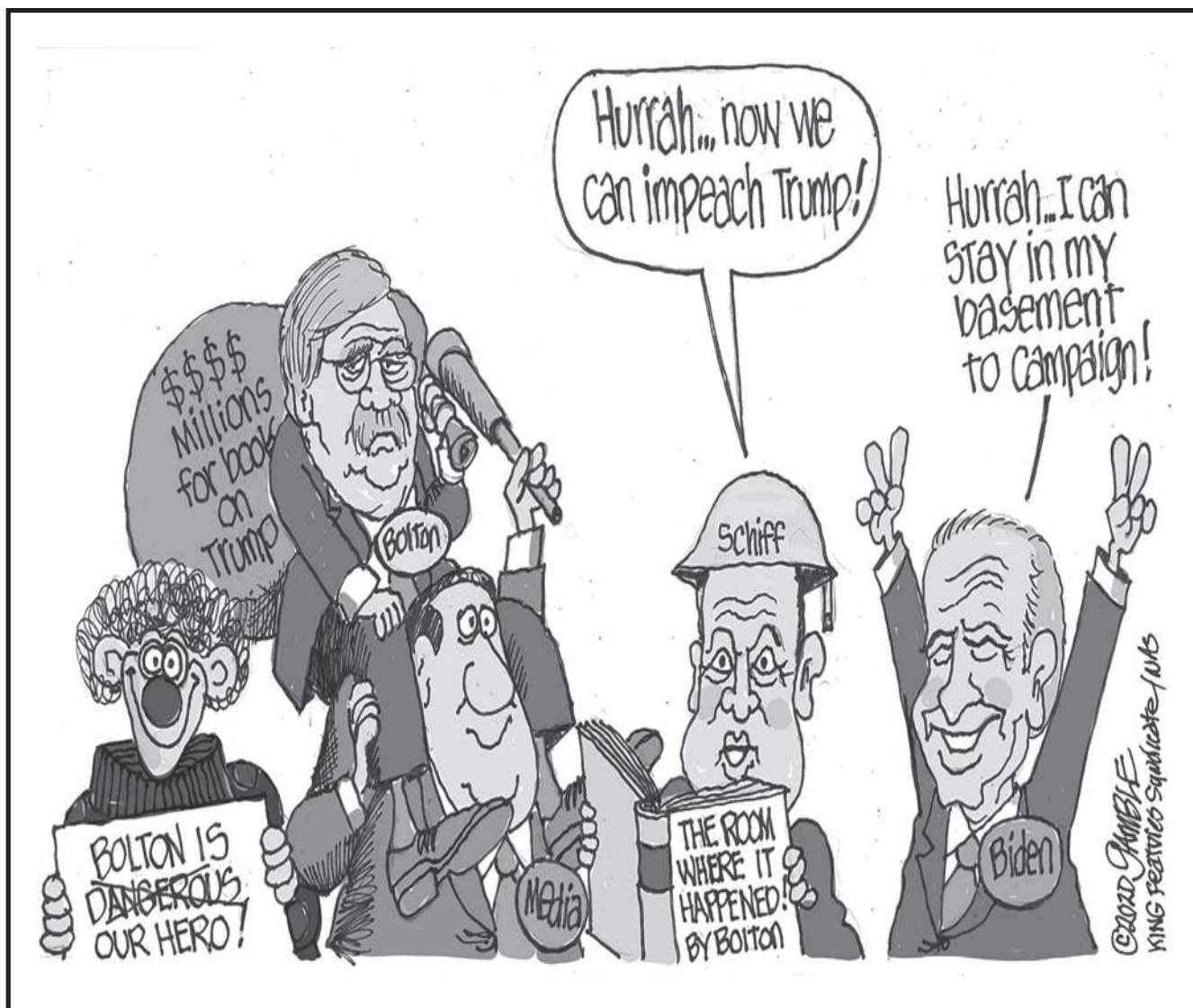
There are any number of reasons behind this abundance of wishful thinking. Americans, and probably a lot of other folks around the world, are growing tired of social distancing, shutdowns, the accompanying economic recession and all the rest.

President Donald Trump, ever focused on self-interest and reelection, is not just rooting for recovery, he's happily misrepresenting reality in an off-the-charts level of denial or perhaps a let-them-eat-cake attitude toward the masses. And, of course, the overall trends have been moving in a favorable direction including in Maryland where last week marked the third straight of declining number of hospitalizations. Mix in a bit of unmasked envy among the Fox News crowd as they whine about the lack of social distancing among certain Black Lives Matter protesters. Not to mention how so many coronavirus-related restrictions have been lifted successfully by states. Perhaps the moment when people became sick of it all was inevitable.

So here's a reality check. It isn't over. And that's not Democrats-wanting-President-Trump-to-fail talking. It's not fearmongering in the "mainstream media," however that's defined these days. It's experience and medical expertise.

During the last major pandemic, the 1918 "Spanish Flu," the first wave in the spring was bad but the second wave in the fall was much worse, killing tens of millions. The opportunity World War I presented for the virus to be spread across Europe and beyond by young men living in close quarters made the difference.

See COVID-19 on Next Page



## It's time to bring the Civil War to an end

From the beginning a civil war was inevitable.

The first seven decades of our history are a story of compromise, accommodation and temporizing, all in the attempt to avert armed conflict as long as possible.

The Three-Fifths Compromise, the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 eased tensions temporarily. But the conflict between an industrializing, modernizing, free-labor North and an agricultural South that depended on slaves and white supremacy was ir-  
resolvable, except, eventually, by war.

Hostilities began on Apr. 12, 1861, when confederates opened fire on U.S. troops garrisoned in Fort Sumter, South Carolina. We usually say the war ended four years later on Apr. 9, 1865, when Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox, Virginia.

But dissatisfied interests in both the North and South began almost immediately to work to reestablish the prewar status quo. In some respects, the Civil War transcends the four bloody years in the 1860s. It began with our founding and has continued through the long years of Reconstruction and Jim Crow, up to the current protests coalescing around Black Lives Matter.

In fact, the war will never be entirely over until two things happen. The first is the achievement of genuine, practical equality for African Americans. Slavery and segregation have given way to their modern equivalents, de facto segregation in our schools, churches and neighborhoods and economic conditions that guarantee that Black family wealth is a fraction of white wealth.

Second, we have to abandon the cult of the Civil War. This means dismantling the monuments that glorify the so-called "Lost Cause," the revisionist idea that the South was fighting for states' rights or the preservation of a benign, honorable way of life. It means letting go of our fetish for the Confederate flag, and it means renaming the 10 military installations that still commemorate Confederate officers.

This is not erasing history; it's embracing it honestly. The courage and gallantry these honored confederates might have displayed cannot redeem the fact that they were fighting to preserve white supremacy.

And they weren't terribly good at it. Robert E. Lee was a competent tactician, but he was no strategist, and his unrealistic stubbornness after his defeat was inevitable cost the lives of many Americans, on both sides.

By **JOHN M. CRISP**  
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at [jcrispcol-umns@gmail.com](mailto:jcrispcol-umns@gmail.com). the United States.



Lee was a slaveholder who sometimes had slaves flogged; sometimes he flogged them himself. And like much of the Southern aristocracy, after the fighting stopped, Lee put his efforts into maintaining white supremacy.

In 1866, Grant said about Lee: "Lee is behaving badly. He is conducting himself very differently from what I had reason, from what he said at the time of the surrender, to suppose he would. No man at the South is capable of exercising a tenth part of the influence for good that he is, but instead of using it, he is setting an example of forced acquiescence so grudging and pernicious in its effect as to be hardly realized."

It would be better to understand Lee than to maintain monuments to his glory.

Lest you think that I'm just another liberal Yankee with no appreciation for the Old South, I'd be happy to put my confederate bona fides up against yours.

I've lived in Texas all my life. Some of my ancestors fought for the Confederacy. In fact, one of them, Francis Hays, a Texas frontier lawyer in my mother's direct line of descent, on March 6, 1860, went to a "negro auction" and purchased "one little boy about 10 years old for \$1150.00." He called it "a good bargain."

Am I embarrassed by this slaveholding heritage? Not at all. After a few generations, family trees ramify so extensively that everyone's is filled with sinners and saints, priests and prostitutes, slaveholders and abolitionists. So is yours. Southern heritage is nothing to be ashamed of, but it's nothing to be proud of, either.

The Civil War wasn't a Lost Cause, it was a Bad Cause. We'll never bring the war to an end until we stop glorifying the men who fought to preserve white supremacy, no matter how gallantly.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## A letter to my beautiful, black unborn baby

To my unborn son, daughter or however you choose to identify,

I remember when your dad and I found out that you would be the newest addition to our little family. It was the beginning of a global pandemic, and we had hunkered down in our two-bedroom apartment for the long haul. There was so much uncertainty ahead of us, but you brought us so much stability and happiness.

As weeks continued to pass us by and uncertainty continued to grow, we kept our heads down, continued to work remotely and embraced all of the changes that were upon us because of you.

Then our world was turned upside in what seemed like days, but was really over the course of a few short months.

First, we learned of the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and finally George Floyd. All black, all unarmed, all of them could have been you.

While this isn't the first time we have watched innocent black men and women murdered, and while it will not be the last, this time it unearthed something inside of me that I have never felt before: a mother's instinct of fear and rage.

I'm now in the beginning stages of my second trimester. During this time of pregnancy is when you're beginning to move your arms and legs, you have all of your fingers and toes, your facial features are becoming more defined and my stomach is starting to become more noticeable. Your dad and I should be thinking about who you will look like more, when will we feel you kick for the first time, whether you are a boy or a girl.

But your gender doesn't matter, because either way, the only thing we can talk about is how we can protect you. When will be the first time we have to have a conversation about what not to do when you go outside? Do not keep your hands in your

pockets, do not wear a hood, if you are stopped by the police keep your hands on the steering wheel at all times, if you are ever detained (no matter what the reason) immediately ask for an attorney, never let yourself be alone in a room with law enforcement if you can avoid it, and so on.

Why will too many people in this country see you as a threat solely based on the color of your skin?

It's too dangerous to not have these conversations because you or any black child could easily be another George, another Breonna, another Ahmaud, or any of the other hundreds of black men and women killed by law enforcement or white civilians.

For those of us who want children, I think we all have an idea about what kind of parent we hope to be, but we can never be certain. I always want to be honest with you and be open about my feelings.

So let's start here: I'm scared. I'm terrified for you already, and you're not even here yet. I already want to shelter you away from the harsh realities of the world we live in. I want to protect you from the hate and evil that spews from the mouths of those that hide behind a dictator who warrants violence—daily—against me, your father, and now, you. And yet, I know, I won't be able to do that forever.

While the fire is still burning inside of me, it is also met with feelings of excitement and joy. Despite the feeling of terror, I choose to tell you every day that you are worthy and wonderful. I am overcome with gratitude as I watch my body change, be-

By **EBONY CHISHOLM**  
The Hartford Courant



*Ebony Chisholm is the managing director of External Affairs with Educators for Excellence—Connecticut, an expectant mother and a Middletown, Conn., resident.*

cause that means you are growing and that we are one day closer to meeting you.

I know that I won't be able to keep you under my wing forever, but what I can and will continue to do for your entire life is tell you that you are black, you are beautiful, you are strong, you are powerful. No matter what you hear or see, I want you to be proud of who you are, know that your skin will radiate to all those around you and know that you can do anything.

If you ever forget that or anyone makes you feel anything less-than, your mom and dad will be there to remind you that your life matters and all black lives matter. Our backs will be holding you up. Forever.

Love always,  
Your mom

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Happy PRIDE, Marianas!

A little over a week ago, the Trump administration eliminated nondiscrimination protections for transgender people in the areas of healthcare and health insurance, which were originally enacted during the Obama administration. On the same day, many in the LGBTQIA+ community remembered the 49 people who were killed in a mass shooting four years ago at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida. Three days later, the U.S. Supreme Court released a decision that protects LGBTQ people from workplace discrimination. It has certainly been a rollercoaster month for LGBTQIA+ people in the United States and its territories.

In a recent Humanities Half-Hour show, Dr. Bobby Cruz gave listeners a mini-history lesson about PRIDE, and the lesson, I think, is instructive for LGBTQIA+ people and their allies as we continue celebrating PRIDE in the last weeks of PRIDE month and as we continue our work moving forward.

As jubilant as we should be during PRIDE month—and yes, for the love of all that is good and holy—let us celebrate, let us revel in our fabulousness, and find ways to celebrate safely and responsibly during this pandemic—as happy as we should be during this month wherein at least for a moment, our LGBTQIA+ lives are affirmed in special ways in our community and in celebrations around the world, let us also remember. PRIDE started as a riot that turned into a protest, as Dr. Cruz reminded us. Marsha P. Johnson—a Black, queer, gender-nonconforming drag queen and a transgender hero—is credited as being central to the Stonewall riots of 1969 that effectively commenced PRIDE protests and celebrations in the U.S.

I marvel at queer existence, not because we are anything special—certainly not more special than anyone else—but because we are alive. Hundreds of years, some might say thousands of years, and we're still here. Discrimination. Oppression. Shame. Death. And we're still here. At least some of us.

Today, for just a moment, I want to remember Sara Hegazy. She was an outspoken Egyptian LGBTQ+ rights advocate. She became famous because a photo of her waving a PRIDE flag at a concert in Cairo, Egypt, went viral. As a result of that photo,

Sara was arrested and spent three months in prison, where she was tortured. She was released and lived in exile in Canada for a number of years. Unfortunately for those who loved her and for those who admired her, she died by suicide on June 14, but her legacy lives on. Below is an excerpt from a tribute from a queer woman activist that appeared on a website created for people to share their memories of Sara anonymously because in some parts of the world, people can't celebrate PRIDE openly, can't be their authentic selves because to do so would result in their imprisonment or worse.

She wrote: "I want you to know that I feel and see the change happening in our societies. I feel the anger building up, I feel the people becoming more conscious... wanting to talk about the uncomfortable things, calling out the homophobes, the racists, the sexists, the capitalists, the police brutality that occurs every single day, the sexual harassment, and all the other human rights violations. I know people laugh at me and tell me there's too much bad in the world, too much that needs to be solved, but I like to imagine that this is not how you viewed the world. From what I've read about you, you were a dreamer like me, you believed in a better future and you fought for it, so thank you for fighting for us, it's our job now to continue your fight" (<https://bit.ly/3eo8ufo>).

Today, I say her name—Sara Hegazy—to remind myself that every day I wake up is a gift not only to me but also to the world. Every day LGBTQIA+ people wake up, we stake our claim. We say in ways big and small: "We're here. We're queer. We will not live in fear. We're here. We're queer. We will not disappear. We're here. We're queer. We'd like to say hello. We're here. We're queer. Get used to it!"

I want to thank Pride Marianas Youth for the work that it does for and in our community and for allowing so many of us—queer and straight—to join PMY in its endeavors to create a more accepting and inclusive community. In particular, I want to recognize the work of Dr. Jennifer Maratita, founder of Pride Marianas Youth, and Mr. Dan Brown, PMY chair for this year's PRIDE activities in the CNMI. Speaking for that 12-year-old kid who would spend far too many years in the closet and far too many years ashamed to be who he is, thank you.

Through PRIDE, with PRIDE, and in PRIDE—let us remember, let us celebrate, let us fight.

**Kon kâriñu,**  
**Jonathan Pangelinan Del Rosario Cabrera**  
Fort Worth, Texas

## COVID-19

From Page 8

As National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci has observed, this is no time for complacency. Think football can be played as usual in the fall? Not unless players are willing to live in a bubble. That a Republican National Convention in Florida can be held in August without social distancing after authorities in Charlotte, North Carolina, declined to allow full attendance in their arena? Dr. Fauci has strong reservations. And, by the way, he wouldn't have attended the Tulsa rally, not because of any animus toward Trump but because he regards it as too dangerous. He just wants some common sense and no indoor crowds. "Outside is better than inside, no crowd is better than crowd," he has said.

Can masks be uncomfortable and maybe look a little goofy? Sure can. Does it seem decidedly low-tech to use a face covering like those 17th century plague doctors with their beaked masks? Yes to that as well. But researchers caution that the virus passes through little droplets expelled from the mouth and nose every time a person speaks, sings, laughs, coughs or simply exhales. And masks protect against those droplets, both from you passing them to others and you receiving them from folks who may not even realize they have it.






Tight masks around the face is best. Pleats are better than flat. Multiple layers are good, too. Follow those and other social distancing guidelines and you lessen the chances not only that you won't become sick but that others around you stay healthy as well.

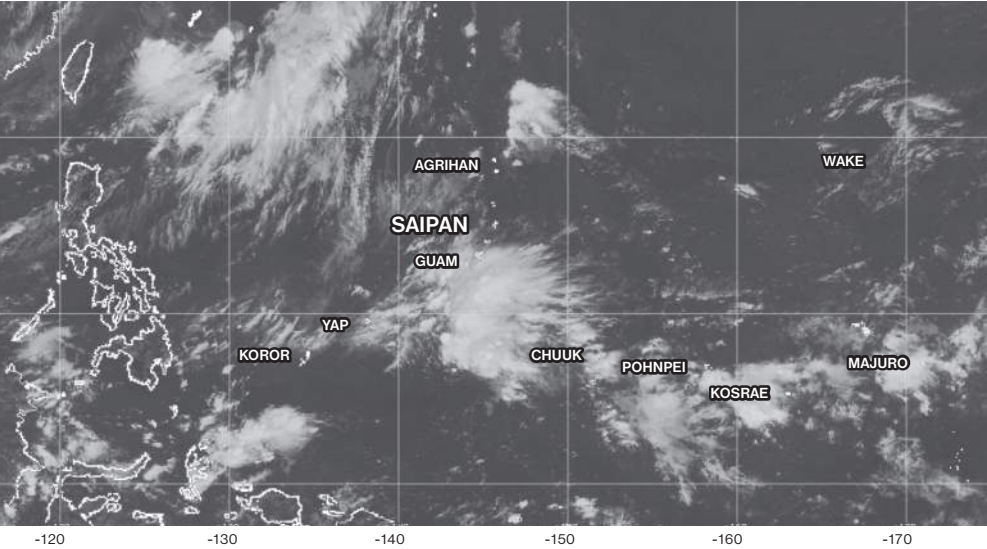
Anyone unconvinced that the coronavirus is nothing to fear ought to take a few minutes to read Baltimore Sun reporter Jon Meoli's recent account of life on the COVID-19 rehabilitation ward with patients learning to breathe, to talk, to swallow after weeks with a tube stuck down their throat pumping air into their lungs.

Until there's a readily available vaccine, we need to band together and take these reasonable precautions. That's how the hospitalization rate fell in recent weeks and it's how Americans can, hopefully, avoid that dreaded second wave.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
89°	78°	89°	78°	89°	79°	89°	79°	89°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 7:15 AM, TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly cloudy skies, isolated showers and moderate trade winds are seen this morning across the Marianas. The Ritidian and Ipan buoys are reporting combined seas of 5 to 6 feet, while the partially blocked Tanapag buoy indicates 3-4 ft seas. A large upper-level low is centered well NW of Saipan near 19N142E, producing upper-level divergence across the Marianas and sparking isolated thunderstorms SW of Guam, but well outside the Guam coastal waters.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)


## STOP THE SPREAD

**T**he Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

able, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- ❑ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❑ Limiting visitors



CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

- Continue good hand hygiene**
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
  - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

- Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**
- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
    - ❑ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
    - ❑ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not avail-

**Rumor control**  
During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°	
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:17 AM	9:33 PM	-
Thursday	9:16 AM	10:22 PM	-
Friday	10:14 AM	11:09 PM	-
Saturday	11:11 AM	11:53 PM	-
Sunday	12:08 PM	-	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	59° / 52°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	91° / 72°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 74°	
London	Cloudy	72° / 57°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	70° / 59°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	57° / 43°	
Miami	Showers	85° / 76°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	93° / 73°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 59°	
Busan	Rain	75° / 66°	
Rome	Thunderstorm	88° / 66°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	93° / 73°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	86° / 66°	
Tokyo	Rain	75° / 66°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	97° / 77°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:03 AM	LOW TIDE	1.50	
8:29 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.01	
4:02 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.19	
11:23 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.11	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	1, 4, 6	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	1, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri	3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri	3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable



**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**  
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:  
■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone  
■ \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone  
■ Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

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# Business

## How **FB** saved *New Majestic Restaurant*

By **MARK RABAGO**  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**L**ike all businesses on island suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic, New Majestic Restaurant struggled to adjust to the normal and even when it started take-out service, sales remained lukewarm at best.

That's when owner Sarly Li decided to try social media—Facebook specifically—to reach out to customers and drum up the sagging operations of the Chinese restaurant.

"No tourists, no business, no income. [There was also] no plane to return home. ... We had a lot of fear and confusion about the future. I closed the restaurant last March 26 and reopened last April 10 and started to do take-out only," she said.

It wasn't an auspicious transition for Li as New Majestic Restaurant's takeaway service



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
New Majestic Restaurant's black pepper beef.

started, in her own words, "badly and was very slow." That's when she hit on the idea of reaching out to customers

**For reservations and for more information, call 233-8066**

via a Facebook page.

"I opened a Facebook account for

New Majestic Restaurant and posted photos of the dishes every day. I also responded to

the customers' questions and slowly our take-out service improved and now we average from 15 to 20 takeaway orders a day," she said.

Li opened New Majestic Restaurant along Coral Tree Avenue in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in 2008. She said her husband named the business thus because the words "new" and "majestic" had a nice ring to them. Three years ago, they moved to Plumeria Street, a stone's throw away from the hotel.

Since then, New Majestic Restaurant has become known for its home-cooked Sichuan and Cantonese dishes. Li is proud that the restaurant has also become a favorite of local and tourist customers alike because of their good service and very clean premises.

As far as bestsellers go, roast duck, walnut shrimp, black pepper beef, salt and pepper squid, beef broccoli, stuffed eggplant, dried string beans, sweet and sour poke, and fried rice are on the top of the list. As a promotion, Li said they are giving away



MARK RABAGO

New Majestic Restaurant is located along Plumeria Street in the heart of Garapan.

plain rice for free and on some occasions soda as well.

With the government easing COVID-19 restrictions last month, New Majestic Restaurant began dine-in service in May 16. As part of measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, Li distributed alcohol, face masks, and disposable gloves to her staff and increased the number of hand sanitizers inside the restaurant.

Thanks to its loyal custom-

ers, New Majestic Restaurant seems to have weathered the storm of COVID-19 and that's more than half a month before the CNMI welcomes back tourists, which used to comprise the bulk of her business.

"Thank you to all new customers and regular customers for their support and love for the restaurant. They let me feel the warmth and comfort of my family. ... We're now in nor-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

New Majestic Restaurant's roasted duck.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

New Majestic Restaurant's stir-fried mixed seafood.

mal sales," she said.

New Majestic Restaurant is located along Plumeria Street in the heart of Garapan. It is open from 11am to 2pm and from 4pm to 10pm every day. For reservations and for more information, call 233-8066 or message their Facebook account.

## Atlantic City casinos reopening July 2, with masks mandatory

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.** (AP)—Atlantic City's casinos will be able to reopen July 2 at 25% capacity and everyone inside the building wearing masks, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said Monday.

In a Twitter post, the Democratic governor also said indoor dining can resume on that date, with restaurants also operating at 25% capacity. And racetracks can resume operating July 2 as well.

Murphy said New Jersey casino patrons will have to

abide by a requirement that is not being used at every casino that has reopened thus far: All guests and employees will have to wear face masks and undergo some level of health screening.

"If any visitor refuses to comply with these simple safeguards, you will be escorted out of the casino," the governor said. "We are not going to tolerate any knuckleheads trying to ruin it for those who want to enjoy themselves responsibly and those who need

to get back to work, especially if those knuckleheads could be spreading Covid."

The city's nine casinos have been waiting for a reopening date for weeks, even as casinos in other states reopened.

"We're delighted to get the reopening date," said Joe Lupo, president of the hard Rock casino. "We thank the governor that we'll be able to be open for the July 4th weekend to meet the demand on the world-famous Atlantic City Boardwalk."

## BOG Naval Station Branch reopens last Monday

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Bank of Guam announces the reopening of its Naval Station branch beginning last Monday, June 22, opening from 9am to 3pm, closed Saturday.

The Bank's Hagatna and Saipan Garapan branches have also updated their hours, effective last Monday, June 22, as follows:

■ Hagatna drive-thru: 8am-3pm

■ Hagatna Bbranch: 9am-3pm

■ Garapan drive-thru and walk-up: 8am-3pm

■ Garapan branch: 9am-3pm

The Upper Tumon, Andersen, Mangilao and Yigo branches continue their 9am-3pm hours with all branches closed Saturday. The Tumon Branch drive-thru is closed.

All opened branches now offer all branch services, with

new accounts and loan originations available by appointment only at appointments@bankofguam.com or other customer support channels for scheduling.

A complete list of all open branch locations and permitted transactions is available on www.bankofguam.com, the COVID-19 Page.

For additional information, contact Jackie Marati at (671) 472-5258. (PR)

## Apple previews new iPhone software, changes to Mac chips

Apple on Monday provided a glimpse at upcoming software changes designed to make the iPhone even easier to use and also announced a long-anticipated shift to a new type of chip to power its line of Mac computers.

The preview of the next version of the iPhone's operating system, known as iOS 14, highlighted Apple's annual conference for computer programmers and mobile app makers. The event, which was delayed for three weeks due to the coronavirus pandemic, took place in virtual form via a webcast from the company's Cupertino, California, headquarters.

In recognition of the pandemic, Apple's next iPhone operating system will include an option to put a face mask on a personalized emoji. Upgraded software for the Apple Watch will also detect when wearers wash their hands.

Apple CEO Tim Cook kicked off Monday's session with remarks that acknowledged the nationwide protests triggered by George Floyd's death last month at the hands of Minneapolis police, as well as the social and business challenges posed by the worst pandemic in a century.

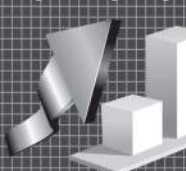
But most of the presentation revolved around an array of new features that, for in-

stance, could help iPhone users manage their apps better, find new ones, and use their phones to unlock and start their cars remotely. (Though that last feature will initially only be available for a 2021 BMW model.)

Apple also promised an upgraded version of its digital assistant Siri intended to make it smarter and less cumbersome, helping it fend off rival voice-activated concierges made by Google and Amazon.

Apple also said its Mac computers will begin using its own chips as it phases out the Intel processors that have powered the machines for the past 15 years.

### STOCK PORTFOLIO



### LEADING INDICATORS

#### S&P

3,103.25  
-7.50  
-0.24%

#### DOW

25,874.00  
-79.00  
-0.30%

#### NASDAQ

10,089.75  
-35.00  
-0.35%

In U.S. dollar terms

### EXCHANGE RATES

		Hong Kong Dollar	7.75	Russian Ruble	67.84
Australian Dollar	1.45	Indian Rupee	75.25	Singapore Dollar	1.39
British Pound	0.80	Japanese Yen	107.13	South Korean Won	1,184.19
Canadian Dollar	1.36	Malaysian Ringgit	4.23	Swiss Franc	0.95
Chinese Yuan	6.97	New Zealand Dollar	1.55	Taiwan Dollar	29.05
Euro	0.89	Philippine Peso	49.20	Thailand Baht	30.98



# Nation

## Surging US virus cases raise fear that progress is slipping

**ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.** (AP)—Alarming surges in coronavirus cases across the U.S. South and West raised fears Monday that the outbreak is spiraling out of control and that hard-won progress against the scourge is slipping away because of resistance among many Americans to wearing masks and keeping their distance from others.

Confirming predictions that the easing of state lockdowns over the past month and a half would lead to a comeback by the virus, cases surpassed 100,000 in Florida, hospitalizations are rising dramatically in Houston and Georgia, and a startling 1 in 5 of those tested in Arizona are proving to be infected.

Over the weekend, the virus seemed to be everywhere at once: Several campaign staff members who helped set up President Donald Trump's rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma, tested positive, as did 23 Clemson University football players in South Carolina. At least 30 members of the Louisiana State University team were isolated after becoming infected or coming into contact with someone who was. Meatpacking plants were also hit with outbreaks.

"It is snowballing. We will most certainly see more



AP  
Plastic partitions separate patrons at Jake's Dilemma the first day of the phase two reopening of the city during the current coronavirus outbreak, Monday, June 22, 2020, in New York.

people die as a result of this spike," said Dr. Marc Boom, CEO and president of Houston Methodist Hospital, noting that the number of COVID-19 hospital admissions has tripled since Memorial Day to more than 1,400 across eight hospital systems in the Houston metropolitan area.

He warned that hospitals

could be overwhelmed in three weeks, and he pleaded with people to cover their faces and practice social distancing.

"It is possible to open up at a judicious pace and coexist with the virus, but it requires millions and millions of people to do the right thing," Boom said.

Texas is among a number

of states—including Arizona, Alabama, Florida and South Carolina—whose governors have resisted statewide mask requirements, leaving the matter to local authorities.

The number of new coronavirus cases across the country per day has reached more than

26,000, up from about 21,000 two weeks ago, according to an Associated Press analysis of data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Over 120,000 deaths in the U.S. have been blamed on the virus, the highest toll in the world.

In Georgia, the number of

people hospitalized because of COVID-19 rose to 1,000, erasing a month's worth of progress.

Infections are at their highest level since the outbreak began, nearly two months after Georgia began lifting restrictions on businesses. Gov. Brian Kemp has required face coverings by waiters, barbers and others working face-to-face with customers but has largely let businesses decide whether customers must wear masks.

In Orlando, 152 coronavirus cases were linked to one bar near the University of Central Florida campus, said Dr. Raul Pino, a state health officer in the tourism city.

"A lot of transmission happened there," Pino said. "People are very close. People are not wearing masks. People are drinking, shouting, dancing, sweating, kissing and hugging, all the things that happen in bars. And all those things that happen are not good for COVID-19."

## Trump to celebrate border wall milestone in Arizona

**PHOENIX** (AP)—President Donald Trump is set to mark 200 miles (322 kilometers) of wall along the southwest border in Arizona on Tuesday, in an area where crews have built dozens of miles of new fencing amid a coronavirus breakout and protests from opponents who say construction is destroying important habitats.

Trump will be accompanied by Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf, who was in Yuma in January to celebrate the completion of 100 miles (161 kilometers). Wolf called the wall system an "undeniable impediment to smugglers, traffickers and other criminals who have exploited our lack of effective border infrastructure to smuggle drugs, illicit goods and engage in human trafficking."

It's unclear where exactly within the Yuma Sector, which is near the California-Arizona border, Trump will visit, and the Border Patrol declined to give specifics on Monday. But Yuma has been an important place in Trump's promise to build a wall along the southern border. The president tweeted

on Monday afternoon that he will celebrate the "212th plus mile of completion," offering a different number than DHS officials gave in a news release earlier.

The agency says it has completed 61 miles (98 kilometers) of border wall and plans on building another 109 miles (175 kilometers) in that rugged area of mostly desert. Most of the new fencing that's gone up is 30 feet (9 meters) high.

The Trump administration has promised to build 450 miles (724 kilometers) of border wall by the end of the year, aided by relaxed procurement laws that allow the government to award contracts to construction companies without much vetting. The government has awarded over \$6.1 billion in construction contracts since April 2019, according to a tally by The Project On Government Oversight, a nonpartisan and independent watchdog.

Construction has continued despite a coronavirus outbreak that's hit the Yuma area hard, and amid opposition from environmentalists and Native

American tribes.

"Trump's racist border wall has scarred our public lands, destroyed cultural sites for Indigenous people, and pushed wildlife closer to extinction," said Brett Hartl, chief political strategist at the Center for Biological Diversity Action Fund. "With the country's economy wrecked and coronavirus cases spiking in Arizona, his visit is a cheap political campaign stunt that only reveals how out of touch he is."

The pandemic isn't stopping plans for more border barriers anywhere.

In South Texas, where most border land is privately owned, the Justice Department has sued dozens of landowners to survey or seize their property for wall construction, including an orphanage operated by nuns in Laredo.

Crews have built several small sections but not yet come close to completing the wall through Laredo or the Rio Grande Valley, the southernmost point of Texas. Almost all of the U.S. land next to the Rio Grande, the river that separates Texas and Mexico, does not yet have a wall.

## Seattle will move to dismantle protest zone, mayor says

**SEATTLE** (AP)—Faced with growing pressure to crack down on an "occupied" protest zone following two weekend shootings, Seattle's mayor said Monday that officials will move to wind down the blocks-long span of city streets taken over two weeks ago that President Donald Trump asserted is run by "anarchists."

Mayor Jenny Durkan said the violence was distracting from changes sought by thousands of peaceful protesters opposing racial inequity and police brutality. She said at a news conference that the city is working with the community to bring the "Capitol Hill Occupied Protest" zone, or CHOP, to an end and that police soon would move back into a precinct building they had largely abandoned in the area.

Durkan also vowed to address some of the protesters' demands, including investing more in Black communities, reimagining policing in cooperation with community leaders, and pushing for accountability measures and statewide reform of police unions.

The mayor did not give an immediate timeline for clear-

ing out the occupation but said "additional steps" would be examined if people don't leave voluntarily. With scores of people camping in a park in the protest zone, Durkan said peaceful demonstrations could continue, but nighttime disorder had to stop.

"The cumulative impacts of the gatherings and protests and the nighttime atmosphere and violence has led to increasingly difficult circumstances for our businesses and residents," Durkan said. "The impacts have increased and the safety has decreased."

A shooting Sunday night was the second in less than 48 hours at the edge of the zone, which is named for the Capitol Hill neighborhood near downtown Seattle and emerged during nationwide protests over the killing of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police.

The 17-year-old victim was shot in the arm and declined to speak with detectives, police said. Gunfire early Saturday left a 19-year-old man dead and another person critically wounded.

The victims were taken to

a hospital by volunteer medics in private cars, and police said they were met by a hostile crowd that prevented them from immediately getting to the scene.

It was not apparent if the shootings had anything to do with the protest—gunfire sometimes occurs in the neighborhood, especially on warm summer nights.

Protesters cordoned off the several-block area near the police's East Precinct after Seattle riot squads unleashed tear gas, pepper spray and flash-bangs on large crowds of mostly peaceful protesters, drawing condemnation from many city leaders and a federal court order temporarily banning the use of the weapons on demonstrators.

After police largely abandoned the building, protesters took over the area—with demonstrators painting a large "Black Lives Matter" mural on the street, handing out free food, playing music and planting a community garden. Its existence incensed Trump, who criticized Durkan and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, both Democrats.



# Asia

## India sees rural virus cases soar



AP  
Commuters wearing masks as a precaution against the coronavirus travel in a ferry in Kochi, Kerala state, India, Monday, June 22 2020.

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—India's coronavirus caseload has risen to 425,282 as infections soar in rural areas to which migrant workers fleeing major cities have returned in recent weeks.

India's health ministry on Monday reported 14,821 new cases and about 300 new deaths, bring the toll of fatalities up to more than 13,000. The coastal state of Goa reported its first COVID-19 death.

India is the fourth most-affected country globally after the United States, Brazil and Russia.

India's government planning body Niti Aayog says infections have now emerged in 98 out of 112 of the country's poorest districts.

The Indian government ran special trains to bring thousands of migrant workers back to their ancestral villages in recent weeks.

Still, about 60% of India's cases have been reported in the states of Delhi, which includes the national capital of New Delhi; Maharashtra, home to India's financial capital Mumbai; and Tamil Nadu, where manufacturing hub Chennai is located.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ The chairman of a chain of pharmacies in Beijing has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for selling more than 500,000 counterfeit 3M Corp. masks during the coronavirus epidemic, news reports said Monday. Two people who colluded with Li Dong, chairman of Kang Baixin Pharmacy, also were sentenced to prison by the Chaoyang District Court, the Beijing News and other outlets reported, citing unidenti-

fied sources. There was no announcement from the court and phone calls to its press office weren't answered. Li and co-defendants Li Yuzhang and Luo Hanyi were convicted of buying fake 3M masks and re-selling them to pharmacies or individuals, the news reports said. They said the defendants all denied the charges and said they would appeal their conviction.

■ China reported 18 new cases of the coronavirus, including nine in Beijing and two in neighboring Hebei province. It was the first time in more than a week that the number fell to single digits in an outbreak in the Chinese capital. Previously, the city had reported more than 20 cases every day for eight straight days. The total number of cases since the first one was confirmed on June 11 rose to 236. The fall in numbers comes after China strengthened measures to eradicate the virus in Beijing, including cancelling school classes and public events.

■ South Korea has reported 17 new cases of COVID-19, the first time its daily jump came down to the teens in nearly a month. Its 40 to 50 cases per day increases over the past two weeks have occurred as people increased their public activities amid eased attitudes on social distancing. An increase in imported cases has prompted authorities to halt providing new visas for travelers from Pakistan and Bangladesh. Twelve of the new cases reported Monday were from the Seoul metropolitan area. The mayor of South Korea's capital has raised concern that the country could be losing control over the virus and

said Seoul will reimpose stronger social distancing measures if the daily jump in infections doesn't fall below an average of 30 over the next three days. Mayor Park Won-soon said Monday the country could have as many as 800 new cases a day a month from now if it fails to control current trends.

■ Philippine officials say Saudi Arabia has asked the Manila government to bring home the remains of 282 Filipino workers, a repatriation delayed because of coronavirus restrictions. Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III says Saudi King Salman made the urgent request himself. The workers died mostly of various illnesses, including COVID-19, in Saudi Arabia, where more than 800,000 Filipinos work. The Philippines asked that the three-day deadline be extended and that the bodies of about 50 Filipinos who died of COVID-19 disease be buried in Saudi Arabia, Bello said. He told The Associated Press the requests would likely be granted.

■ New Zealand reported two new cases of the coronavirus on Monday as a trickle of infected people continue to arrive at the border. The country of 5 million people now has nine active cases after having none at all earlier this month. Health officials say all those cases involve people who have recently arrived and are in quarantine, and there's no evidence of community transmission. Still, many remain anxious community transmission could return, especially after health officials admitted making a mistake by allowing two travelers to leave quarantine before they had been tested. Both were positive and are now in isolation.

# World

## DUE TO VIRUS

## Saudi Arabia to hold 'very limited' hajj

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)**—Saudi Arabia said Tuesday that because of the coronavirus only "very limited numbers" of people will be allowed to perform the annual hajj pilgrimage that traditionally draws around 2 million Muslims from around the world.

The decision comes after weeks of speculation over whether Saudi Arabia would cancel the pilgrimage altogether or allow the hajj to be held in symbolic numbers. It's unclear why the government waited until just five weeks before the hajj to announce its decision, but the timing indicates the sensitivity around major decisions concerning the hajj that affect Muslims around the world.

Saudi kings have for generations assumed titles as custodians of Islam's holiest sites, and their oversight of the hajj is a source of prestige and influence among Muslims globally. The hajj also generates around \$6 billion in revenue for the government every year.

Saudi Arabia has never canceled the hajj in the nearly 90 years since the

country was founded.

The government said its decision to drastically limit the number of pilgrims was aimed at preserving global public health due to the lack of a vaccine for the virus or a cure for those infected, as well as the risks associated with large gatherings of people.

The hajj is one of the biggest gatherings on earth, with pilgrims staying in close confines and walking and praying shoulder-to-shoulder. A stampede in 2015 caused more than 2,400 deaths.

"This decision was taken to ensure hajj is performed in a safe manner from a public health perspective," the government statement said.

The kingdom's Ministry of Hajj said only people of various nationalities already residing in the country would be allowed to perform the large pilgrimage, which is set to begin this year at the end of July.

The government did not specify how many people would be permitted to take part.

The hajj centers around five intense days of worship and rituals in Mecca, however pilgrims typically be-

gin arriving to Saudi Arabia through its main gateway city of Jiddah weeks and even months in advance.

Saudi Arabia said its "top priority is to always enable Muslim pilgrims to perform the hajj and umrah rites safely and securely."

It defended its decision on religious grounds, as well, saying that the teachings of Islam require the preservation of human life. Saudi Arabia's top council of clerics swiftly issued a statement saying the decision is line with Islamic Shariah law.

Performing the hajj is central to Islam and one of the religion's five pillars. All able-bodied Muslims are required to perform the hajj once in their lifetime, with many saving money their entire lives to afford the journey.

The hajj is seen as a chance to wipe clean past sins and start fresh. Pilgrims shed symbols of materialism, as women forgo makeup and perfume and wear loose-fitting clothing and a head covering, while men dress in seamless, white terry-cloth garments meant to emphasize the equality of all Muslims before God.

## At least 15 dead in southern Mexico wind-farm feud killings

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—A longstanding feud over a wind-power project has boiled over into grisly violence, after at least 15 people were bludgeoned to death with stones and cement blocks, and some bodies were partly burned.

The government of the Pacific coast community of San Mateo del Mar in Oaxaca state said Monday that 13 men and two women were killed in what he described as an attack by a group of dissident townspeople on Sunday.

But dissidents who successfully opposed wind power projects in the largely Indigenous area say the mayor's followers ambushed them at a coronavirus checkpoint and began shooting. The dissidents said "several" people were wounded but did not provide an exact figure on those wounded by gunshots.

The prosecutors office in the southern state confirmed the figure of 15 dead, and said a detachment of four detectives, 80 state police and 39 National Guard members had been sent to the scene of

the killings.

It was not clear whether the confrontations Saturday and Sunday in San Mateo del Mar began at one of the "sanitary" checkpoints that have sprung up in recent months to stem the spread of coronavirus.

The area has been coveted for its open, windy coast, and the two sides have been feuding for years. The conflicts date back to 2012 when a consortium of companies tried to build a huge, 396-megawatt off-shore wind farm planned for a narrow spit of land in a lagoon near San Mateo.

The opponents managed to block the project, arguing it would affect their fishing, farming and sacred spaces.

Many residents belong to the Ikoots Indigenous group, sometimes known as the Huaves.

The killings were announced on the same day that Public Safety Secretary Alfonso Durazo praised the south-eastern part of the country, where Oaxaca is located, as the safest part of the country.

"The southeast is particu-

larly giving the best results in public safety, which is not easy anywhere, but specifically in the southeast the crime rate is much, much less serious than in the rest of the country," Durazo said.

That was in part because, before Sunday, the most spectacular violence was occurring in the north, in states like Guanajuato, which now accounts for about 15% to 20% of all the country's homicides.

Attention was dominated by a weekend roundup of gang members in Guanajuato, which unleashed reprisal burning of vehicles by the Santa Rosa de Lima gang. That gang is fighting a bloody turf battle against the Jalisco cartel for control of the state.

On Monday, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said the crackdown on the gang was carried out because "we cannot let the situation fall into chaos, anarchy ... Guanajuato is a situation we have faced for some time now, and we had to act to prevent more bloodshed."



# Good Housekeeping

## No camp for kids this summer?

How to entertain your children while you work from home

By BRETT MOLINA  
TNS

If you're a parent working from home while helping your kids navigate the end of the school year distance learning, give yourself a pat on the back.

It's June, which means the school year is likely already over or near its conclusion. Whether your child graduated high school or made the move up to the next grade, they crossed the finish line.

But now comes a more challenging feat: keeping them entertained this summer. If you're among the families with kids staying at home all summer with no camp options, the most important thing to do is not place too much pressure on yourself.

"Take a lot of deep breaths and set the bar low," says Audrey Monke, author of the book "Happy Campers" who has experience as a camp director.

If you're telecommuting this summer with kids at home, here's how to give them a camp-like experience:

Don't worry too much about the screen time

Maybe you feel really guilty about your kids having too much screen time lately. Devorah Heitner, author of the book "Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) In Their Digital World," says what your kids consume — using screens for educational reasons as opposed to scrolling YouTube — matters more.

"There's a difference between different kinds of screen

experiences," said Heitner. "I would not look at the total minutes. I would look at the quality of the experience."

In some cases, Heitner says, that screen time can be helpful for your child's mental health, such as chatting on a video app with a grandparent or friend or even watching a TV show or movie that lifts their spirits.

### Brainstorm potential activities

The first step to consider when deciding what your kids' routine might look like is assessing your home situation, including what you can do outside. "Can you shoot hoops in the driveway, can you run around the block, can you safely bike," says Heitner. If outdoor space is limited, consider how to get

exercise while indoors.

### Encourage your kids to help out more

Another potential activity? Chores. Once kids reach elementary school age, they can do more independently, says Monke. "Trying to navigate our work and family life has really shined a light for parents that we need our kids to be helping more around the house."

For kids, chores might not be the most exciting thing to do, but Monke says keeping it fun can help motivate. Monke says for her kids, she started a chore draft, where her kids would see a list of chores and select based on a draft order.

"I would encourage parents to think about how they can empower kids this summer to

contribute more to the household," she says.

Parents can even tie those chores—and other activities like reading—to screen time or other fun activities, says Heitner. "You could require any of those things as the passport for a period of some kind of screen time."

### Make time to connect as a family

Monke says one strategy parents can implement is setting aside a "campfire" time where the family gets together to talk about their days. As parents focus on work, and kids are doing their activities, it's a great chance for everyone to come together.

"It's a connection thing where kids get to hear about your real life and you get to hear about theirs," says Monke. "Everyone

knows there's at least one time of day where we'll all have our attention on each other."

### Keep a checklist

For families intimidated by the idea of sticking to a rigid schedule, Monke advises creating a checklist. Have a handful of items you want the kids to complete every day, and allow them to check them off on paper or a white board. It still allows for some level of structure without being too intense.

"One of the things I always look forward to about summer was the more relaxed aspect of it," says Monke. "And you can be relaxed without it being a complete free-for-all."

Follow Brett Molina on Twitter: @brettmolina23.

## Diabetes Quick Fix: All-American Chicken Salad Supper

By LINDA GASSENHEIMER  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Cooked white meat chicken breast, plump blueberries and red bell pepper make this a colorful and patriotic dish.

The dressing lightly coats the salad. It's made with mayonnaise mixed with prepared horseradish, adding a tangy boost to the salad.

Helpful Hints:

■ Any type of berries can be used for the salad.

■ The quickest way to slice scallions is to snip them with a scissors.

Countdown:

■ Saute chicken.

■ Toast the bread.

■ Make the dressing and finish the salad.

■ Arrange the lettuce, tomatoes and cucumbers.

Shopping List:

To buy: 3/4 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast cutlets (1/2-inch thick), 1 loaf whole grain bread, 1 carton nonfat, plain yogurt, 1 bottle prepared horseradish, 1 container blueberries, 1 red bell pepper, 1 bunch scallions, 1 head iceberg lettuce, 1 large tomato and 1 cucumber.

Staples: olive oil spray, reduced-fat mayonnaise, reduced-fat oil and vinegar dressing, salt and black peppercorns.

### ALL-AMERICAN CHICKEN SALAD SUPPER

Recipe by Linda Gassenheimer

Olive oil spray

3/4 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast cutlets (1/2-inch thick)

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 slices whole grain bread

1/4 cup reduced-fat mayon-

naisse

1/4 cup nonfat, plain yogurt

1 tablespoon prepared

horseradish

1 cup blueberries

1 cup red bell pepper, cut

into 1/2-inch cubes

1/2 cup sliced scallions

2 large wedges iceberg let-

tuce

1 large tomato, sliced

1/2 cucumber, peeled and

sliced

3 tablespoons reduced-fat

oil and vinegar dressing

Heat a nonstick skillet over

medium-high heat and spray

with olive oil spray. Add the

chicken and sauté 5 minutes,

turn and sauté 3 minutes. A

meat thermometer should read

165 degrees. Sprinkle with salt

and pepper to taste. Remove to

a cutting board and slice into

strips about 1/2-inches by

1-inch. Toast bread and spray

with olive oil spray. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine

mayonnaise, yogurt and horse-

radish. Stir chicken, blueberries,

red pepper and scallions into the

dressing. Add salt and pepper to

taste. Toss well. Place a slice of

bread on each plate and spoon

salad on top of toast. Place 1

lettuce wedge on each plate. Al-

ternate the tomato and cucum-

ber slices next to the lettuce.

Sprinkle with salt and pepper to

taste and drizzle with reduced-

fat salad dressing.

Yield 2 servings.

Per serving: 530 calories,

20 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 6 g

monounsaturated fat, 130 mg

cholesterol, 47 g protein, 41

g carbohydrates, 9 g dietary

fiber, 21 g sugars, 470 mg

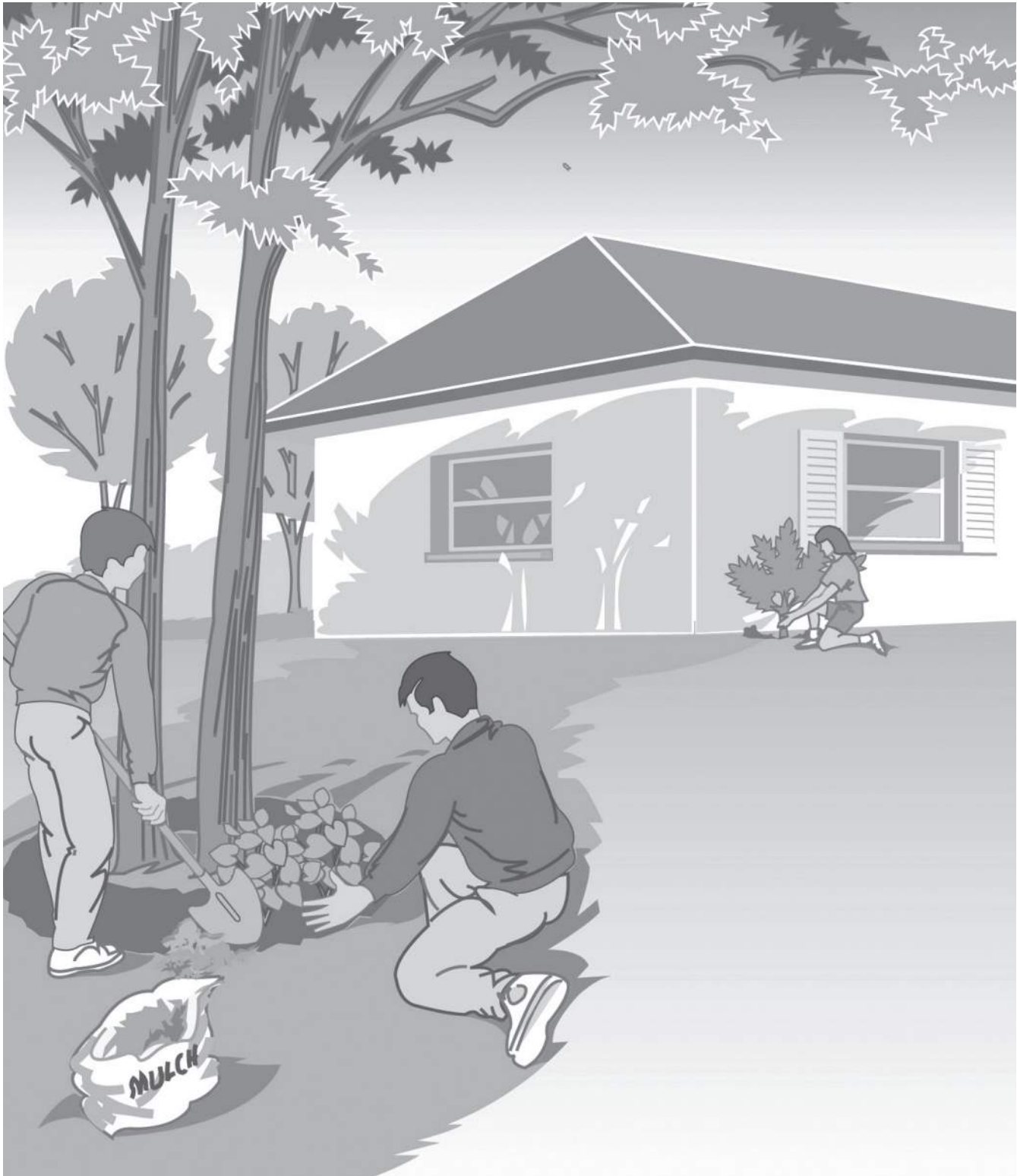
sodium, 1,480 mg potassium,

545 mg phosphorus

Exchanges: 1 starch, 1 fruit,

2 vegetable, 5 1/2 lean protein,

2 fat





# Life & Style

## 'American Idol' 2019 winner Laine Hardy diagnosed with virus

LIVINGSTON, La. (AP)—Laine Hardy, the 2019 winner of "American Idol," says he has been diagnosed with

## Pussy Riot member sentenced to 15 days in Russia

MOSCOW (AP)—Pyotr Verzilov, a Russian political activist and member of the Pussy Riot protest group, has been sentenced to 15 days in jail for swearing in public.

A court on Monday found him guilty of using foul language after being released from more than 12 hours of police questioning on the previous day.

Verzilov said that soon after he was released, he was assaulted in what he claimed was a police provocation. He said police responded to the incident almost immediately and took him into custody

even though "there is no evidence I really cursed."

Verzilov was detained on Sunday morning by anti-terrorism officers who broke into his apartment. The Mediazona website that he publishes said he was questioned in connection with a protest last year where police harshly arrested around 1,300 people.

He attracted worldwide attention in 2018 when he and three other Pussy Riot activists entered the field at the World Cup final in Moscow to protest police brutality, an action for which they served

COVID-19 but his symptoms are mild and he is recovering

15 days in jail.

Two months later, he became severely ill from what group members suspected was poisoning and was flown to Germany for treatment.

under home quarantine.

"This wasn't what I expected on the first day of summer," the 19-year-old singer from Livingston, Louisiana, wrote on his Facebook page and on Instagram. "My doctor confirmed I have Coronavirus, but my symptoms are mild." He ended his tweet: "Y'all stay safe & healthy!"

Hardy had performed Friday, singing the national anthem at swearing-in ceremonies for Livingston Parish Sheriff Jason Ard's third term, The Advocate reported.

Hardy also recently completed a virtual tour that was



**Hardy**

watched by more than 2 million viewers. And his next livestream is scheduled Thursday evening.

Acoustic versions of his new songs "Ground I Grew Up On" and "Let There Be Country" will debut on Friday.

## Golden Globes set Feb. 28 for pandemic-delayed ceremony

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Golden Globes is refusing to let the pandemic get in the way of its party.

The ceremony will be held Feb. 28, 2021, in Beverly Hills with previously announced hosts Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association said

Monday.

The date, as with that of other awards, had been delayed amid the coronavirus disruption. But with the Academy Awards having staked out April 25 last week, the Globes jumped on the February date the Oscars had previously held.

The Golden Globes, set in a hotel ballroom that's arranged more like an oversized dinner party with drinks than a formal ceremony, positions itself as the freewheeling start to awards season. Exactly which movies and TV shows will be eligible for honors remains to be seen, given the virus-

caused delay in production and movie theater screenings that's only now easing.

Organizers said they will provide guidance on eligibility, the voting period and the timing of the nominations announcement but didn't specify when. The ceremony will air on NBC.

## Viggo Mortensen's career to be honored by Spanish festival

MADRID (AP)—The career of Viggo Mortensen, Aragorn in the popular trilogy "Lord of the Rings" and a protagonist in the Academy Award-winning "Green Book," will be honored at this year's San Sebastian Film Festival.

The festival announced Monday that this year's recipient of its "Donostia Award" will be Mortensen. For the moment, organizers are planning

to hold the festival as normal, with film stars flying in from around the world. Spain has lifted most of its restrictions amid the coronavirus pandemic, which has left more than 28,000



**Mortensen**

The Danish-American actor will also present the European premiere of "Falling," his di-

rectorial debut, at the prestigious festival in northern Spain between Sept. 18-26.

The movie closed the Sundance Festival and has been selected for the Cannes Festival. It stars Lance Henriksen in the role of an aging father whose world collides with that of his estranged, homosexual son,

played by Mortensen himself.

Mortensen, 61, has featured in around 50 movies in a career spanning more than three decades. He has been nominated for Oscars three times—for "Eastern Promises," "Captain Fantastic," and "Green Book," in which he portrays the prejudiced driver of classical pianist Don Shirley, played by Mahershala Ali, during a tour of the Deep South in the early 1960s.

## Plants fill seats at Barcelona opera house concert

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu opera house reopened Monday and performed its first concert since the coronavirus lockdown—to an audience that didn't have to

worry about social distancing.

Instead of people, the UceLi Quartet played Giacomo Puccini's "I Crisantemi" (Chrysanthemums) for 2,292 plants, one for each seat in the theater. The concert was also livestreamed

for humans to watch.

The event was conceived by Spanish artist Eugenio Ampudia who said he was inspired by nature during the pandemic.

"I heard many more birds singing. And the plants in my

garden and outside growing faster. And, without a doubt, I thought that maybe I could now relate in a much intimate way with people and nature," he said before the performance.



**AP**

In this Friday, Sept. 7, 2018 file photo, Pyotr Verzilov, a member of the feminist protest group Pussy Riot, speaks during an interview to the Associated Press in Moscow, Russia.

## Women's attraction to man complicates their friendship

**D**EAR ABBY: My friend "Lauren" and her husband separated for a few months last summer. During the separation, she had a short fling with my friend "Zack," whom she met at my house. Lauren decided to continue her marriage and, obviously, chose to stop seeing Zack.

A few months ago, Zack came to a party I threw. Lauren wasn't able to make it. Everyone had a few margaritas, and as the night ended, I found myself having sex with Zack for the first time since our friendship began 10 or so years ago. It was so great, and we decided to do it again. I wasn't sure I should tell Lauren, even though she's a married woman, because I was afraid it might upset her.

A week ago, Zack confessed that he may be in love with me, and I feel the same way toward him. I decided to go ahead and tell Lauren, since my relationship with Zack is getting serious. She reacted terribly. She was furious and accused me of "betraying" her and trying to "one-up" her. She said I should have known how she felt about him and that I'm a terrible friend for having sex with him, let alone falling in love. Abby, are her feelings justified? Am I in the wrong? Or are we all still adults?

ACCIDENTALLY IN LOVE

**DEAR ACCIDENTALLY IN LOVE:** Lauren's feelings justified? Heck, no! If you and Lauren are still speaking, "remind" her that when she went back to her husband,

she relinquished all claims on the man she slept with in the interim. He's entitled to a life and so are you. If I were you, I'd distance myself from this woman. She shouldn't begrudge you for enjoying someone she can't enjoy herself. Shame on her.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a student at an art school, and I'm struggling with anxiety and depression. I have been on lockdown in my hometown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, isolated from my friends and unable to socialize with others. Sometimes when I watch the news I become very anxious, and I wonder if there's a light at the end of these dark times. What should I do?

ANXIETY-RIDDEN IN ATLANTA

**DEAR ANXIETY-RIDDEN:** Welcome to the club! If you think you have been alone in experiencing these emotions, you couldn't be more wrong. Many people feel just the way you do—anxious, isolated and depressed.

You can manage negative emotions by getting out of the house and exercising — alone or with friends or neighbors—while staying a social distance apart—and keeping in touch with friends and classmates using your computer and cellphone. There's no reason you couldn't collaborate with some of them on an art project and create something spectacular using those devices.

Remind yourself that this quarantine is temporary. It

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



isn't going to last forever. Unless you have an underlying health condition or someone in your household does, you can mingle with others wearing a face covering and keeping your distance. From what I have been observing, some relationships have been strengthened as people reach out to comfort and help each other. A surefire way to overcome the blues is to start thinking about what you can do for someone else, even if it's just a phone call to say, "I'm thinking about you. How are you doing?"

\*

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)







# MLB to impose 60-game slate amid stalemate



**NEW YORK** (AP)—There will be a baseball season in 2020—but only because commissioner Rob Manfred is now imposing his will on the players union.

With their weeks-long stalemate continuing after the Major League Baseball Players Association's executive board voted 33-5 to reject MLB's latest 60-game proposal, the league announced Monday night that it will start the process of implementing a season.

Manfred and union head Tony Clark met last week and outlined plans that included expanding the playoffs from 10 teams to 16, widening use of the designated hitter to National League games and an experiment to start extra innings with a runner on second base.

Those innovations now disappear.

"Needless to say, we are disappointed by this development," MLB said in a statement. "The framework provided an opportunity for MLB and its players to work together to confront the difficulties and challenges pre-

sented by the pandemic. It gave our fans the chance to see an exciting new postseason format. And, it offered players significant benefits."

MLB's control owners approved going unilaterally with the 60-game schedule in ballparks without fans if the final arrangements can be put in place, a person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made.

MLB asked the union to respond by 5 p.m. EDT Tuesday as to whether players can report to training by July 1 and whether the players' association will agree on the operating manual of health and safety protocols. The schedule would be the shortest since the National League's third season.

Given the need for three days of virus testing and 21 days of workouts, opening day likely would be during the final week of July. MLB already has started to investigate charter flights that could bring players back from Latin America, another person told the AP, also on condition of



<sup>AP</sup>  
In this Aug. 14, 2019 file photo, Cincinnati Reds second baseman Freddy Galvis gets tangled up with Washington Nationals' Asdrubal Cabrera who was out at second base on the fielder's choice during the fifth inning of a baseball game at Nationals Park in Washington.

crease their future bargaining leverage.

Spring training was suspended on March 12, two weeks ahead of scheduled openers, and the sides have reverted to the familiar financial infighting that fractured the sport in the past. An initial deal March 26 called for players to receive prorated salaries and gave Manfred power to set the schedule, but that agreement did not require MLB to play in ballparks without fans.

Teams sought additional salary concessions, claiming they would lose \$640,000 for each additional regular-season game. The union was skeptical, requested additional documents and said it did not receive enough to evaluate the true financial picture.

Players refused to budge from their insistence on prorated salaries, and MLB finally agreed to that last week during the one-on-one meeting between Manfred and Clark. While Manfred called it a framework for an agreement, Clark said it was merely a proposal and further angered MLB.

At that point, the sides remained about \$275 million apart after weeks of talks. MLB offered 60 games and \$1.48 billion from salaries that originally totaled \$4 billion, plus a \$25 million postseason players' pool. The union wanted 70 games and \$1.73 billion plus a \$50 million pool.

Players are expected to file a grievance, claiming MLB violated a provision in the March agreement requiring both sides to "work in good faith to as soon as is practicable commence play, and complete the fullest 2020 championship season and postseason that is economically feasible" consistent with several provisions. MLB is expected to file a grievance accusing the union of negotiating in bad faith.

Arbitrator Mark Irvings would hear the case. If the union proves a longer schedule had been feasible, each game on the schedule would be worth \$25 million in salary across the 30 teams.

Reduced revenue for clubs this year is expected to cause a drop in the free-agent market, which next offseason is slated to include Mookie Betts, George Springer, J.T. Realmuto, James Paxton, Marcus Stroman and Bauer.

## Top 5 players but no fans for this year's TPC



**CROMWELL, Conn.** (AP)—

The tournament director for this week's Travelers Championship had an idea. How about filling the natural amphitheater around the 18th green at TPC River Highlands with giant video boards showing fans watching the event and cheering from home.

"We started there. We wanted a Zoom wall with like 5,000 people," Nathan Grube said. "We looked at the renderings, the tech. Let's just say, that was not feasible."

The tournament also considered setting up a VIP viewing area so that its top donors could come and watch from a safe social distance.

In the end, Grube said officials decided to keep it as a TV-only event. There will be no Zoom boards, no hospitality tents, no VIPs, not even players' wives or children in Cromwell for the third PGA Tour event to be held during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Travelers will be the first held in its regular time and place on the schedule.

"We wanted to be able to look back at this a week after the tournament and say, 'OK, we did that as safe as we possibly could,'" Grube said. "I'm hoping we can

look back and say, 'OK, maybe we were too safe in that area.' I would so much rather say that than, 'Man we should not have done that.' We're going to err on the side of caution for sure."

The Travelers will have one of its best fields since the Connecticut event was founded as the Insurance City Open in 1952.

The top five players in the world ranking—Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm, Justin Thomas, Brooks Koepka and Dustin Johnson—will be there. So will fan favorites such as three-time champion Bubba Watson, two-time champion Phil Mickelson and 2017 champion Jordan Spieth. Fifteen of the top 20 players in the world are in the field.

The field won't be finalized until COVID-19 test results come back for all those entered. The uncertainty stems from the first positive test during the PGA Tour's return, Nick Watney on Friday in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

And the only people watching in person will be the caddies, those providing broadcast coverage, a few volunteer workers, some journalists and people who live in the River Highlands neighborhood looking on from their properties.

anonymity because no announcements were made.

The union announced its rejection, and the vote total was confirmed by a person familiar with that meeting who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the balloting was not made public. The decision likely will provoke what figures to be lengthy and costly litigation over the impact of the coronavirus on the sport, similar to the collusion cases that sent baseball spiraling to a spring training lockout in 1990 and a 7 1/2-month strike in 1994-95 that wiped out the World Series for the first time in nine decades.

It also eliminates a \$25 million postseason players' pool, meaning players will not get paid anything above meal money during the playoffs and World Series, and the clubs' offer to forgive \$33 million in salary advanced

to 769 players at the bottom of the salary scale with lower rates of pay while in the minors: \$16,500, \$30,000 or \$60,000 for each of them.

"It's absolute death for this industry to keep acting as it has been. Both sides," Cincinnati pitcher Trevor Bauer tweeted in a rare instance of a player criticizing the union. "We're driving the bus straight off a cliff. How is this good for anyone involved? COVID-19 already presented a lose lose situation and we've somehow found a way to make it worse. Incredible."

Teams lose what would have been a new right to sell advertising patches on uniforms, broadcast enhancements such as having players wear microphones during games and a 2020 suspension of the luxury tax that for a 60-game season projected to save the New York Yankees

\$8.5 million, Houston \$3 million, the Los Angeles Dodgers \$434,000 and the Chicago Cubs \$116,000.

Manfred loses what would have been an additional \$60 million to the commissioner's discretionary fund.

The union said in a statement that the "board reaffirmed the players' eagerness to return to work as soon and as safely as possible."

"To that end we anticipate finalizing a comprehensive set of health and safety protocols with Major League Baseball in the coming days, and we await word from the league on the resumption of spring training camps and a proposed 2020 schedule," the union said.

While the framework had included the expanded playoffs for both 2020 and 2021, and Manfred offered to drop it from the second season if players feared it would de-



# Brady pushes up Bucs' workout level



FLORIDA—

As Patriots cornerback Jason McCourty recently explained it, quarterback Tom Brady has considerable value in his mere presence. The Buccaneers are now benefiting from that presence.

Appearing recently with Zach Gelb on CBS Sports Radio Buccaneers Dare Ogunbowale explained that the team's offseason workouts have exhibited a high degree of intensity, thanks to Brady.

Ogunbowale said that the team is doing "[a] lot of [pass] routes, a lot of running and a lot of learning," with everything happened at a very serious level.

"The way he runs our workouts, it's like a practice," Ogunbowale said. "Instead of just telling us to run a dig [route] or something like that, he's telling us the full play call. He's doing his cadence as if we're in a game. He's doing adjustments, doing the hots and sights. With a guy like him, it's really easy to kind of be building chemistry and emulating that whole practice environment."

In a year with no offseason workouts, Brady's work ethic and approach will make a big difference, especially as he gets up to speed with a new team—and as he gets his new team up to speed with him.

Meanwhile, Rob Gronkowski's arrival in Tampa Bay makes an already talented Buccaneers offense even more difficult to defend.

Despite taking a year off



AP  
The Tampa Bay Buccaneers reveal Tom Brady in the team's new uniforms, June 16, 2020

from football, Gronkowski should still be a feared player for opposing defenses. Few players, especially at tight end, have his combination of athleticism, physical strength and football IQ. He's been a matchup nightmare throughout his career and should continue to be that in 2020.

Former New York Jets general manager Mike Tannenbaum recently explained on ESPN's "Get Up!" how Gronkowski can make a genuine impact on the Buccaneers offense without putting up the monster stats he had for so many years with the New

England Patriots.

"It's not going to be quantity, it's going to be quality," Tannenbaum said. "Nothing is more frustrating than hearing all week, 'Gronk in the red zone, Gronk in the red zone, we're going to double team him,' and then he still scores a touchdown."

"I don't think he'll play as much (as he used to), but he'll be there for the impactful plays. The other thing to remember is he'll create production for others because he will at least get double teamed. So when we hear about (wide receivers) Mike Evans and Chris

Godwin having incredible production, that goes back to Rob Gronkowski. He's going to be impactful. It just might not be on the stat sheet."

The Buccaneers can afford to take their time with Gronkowski and bring him up to speed at a pace that works best for him. The reason they have this luxury is their depth at tight end is fantastic.

"Tampa Bay's done a good job—Cam Brate, O.J. Howard—those are really good NFL tight ends," Tannenbaum explained. "This is going to be a long season. We've talked about the pandemic and how

that's going to impact rosters, and I think they will bring (Gronkowski) along slowly. It looked like he lost a bunch of weight being away from the game. They practice on grass, they play on grass, the weather is great. I think over the course of the season they can ramp him up. Again, if he's out there, the last thing a safety wants to see is a guy this big in the red zone. Even if it's 15 plays, those could be difference-making plays."

Fair or not, expectations will be high for Gronkowski entering the upcoming season. Oddsmakers also see a bounce-back year for the future Hall of Fame tight end, who currently has the second-best odds to win the league's Comeback Player of the Year Award.

## Pats' growing pains with new QB

The past four seasons, Dante Scarnecchia's unit blocked for Brady. Now, Scarnecchia is retired (again), and Brady signed with the Buccaneers in free agency.

That leaves a new offensive line coach and a new quarterback for the Patriots.

Cole Popovich and Carmen Bricillo will share the offensive line duties, while second-year pro Jarrett Stidham is competing with veteran Brian Hoyer for the starting job.

The Patriots repeatedly have expressed support of and faith in Stidham, who threw four passes as a rookie backup to Brady. It's why they didn't sign a veteran starter or trade for one.

"He's a different guy in a couple of ways," Scarnecchia said on SiriusXM NFL Radio

on Monday. "No. 1, he doesn't have the wealth of experience that Tom has. There's no doubt about that, and you have to concede that. Yes, there's going to be some things where he's going to hold the ball longer than you want it to be held, but that's all about growing up in this league, and you know that as well as I do. You know, those young guys, they take some time. But I would say this for Jarrett, too: He's a bright kid, and he's a guy, who when he doesn't know, he'll take off. He showed in the preseason last year that he's got some skills and he knows when to get out of there and where the escape points may be and when he gets out of there, he also knows he better get down, because he knows better than to try to run through guys as well. You're not running through many guys in this league."

"So there's going to be some growing pains. There's no doubt about it. But the guy does have skills. He's got a great mind. He cares. He shows up early. He goes home late. I wish him nothing but the best. If still there, I would just say, 'Hey, listen fellas, we've got to do everything we can to make this guy as comfortable as we can, and I'm sure the guys that are going to coach those guys this year are saying exactly that. We've got to be as good as we can be every down and give this guy all the support we possibly can and let him get comfortable and build confidence and be the kind of player that we want him to be and that he wants to be more importantly,' Scarnecchia added. (AP/NBC)

## Australia-NZ favored for 2023 Women's WCup after Japan quits

TOKYO (AP)—Australia and New Zealand have become the clear favorites to jointly host the 2023 Women's World Cup after Japan withdrew from bidding.

The combined bid performed significantly stronger than its only remaining rival, Colombia, in the FIFA inspection report—scoring 4.1 to 2.8.

Japan was marked 3.9 out of 5 and was likely to split the voting on FIFA's ruling council among the seven Asian Football Confederation representatives.

FIFA, soccer's world governing body, will vote Thursday.

Praising Japan's decision to quit the contest as "another impressive show of Asian football unity," AFC President Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa called on Asia members to vote for the cross-confederation bid.

"This is the most technically impressive of the bids

that the council must choose from on June 25 and we must be guided by the experts," he said.

None of the remaining bidders has ever hosted a senior men's or women's World Cup. Victory for the Australia and New Zealand would be the first time a World Cup has been split across two confederations.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison issued a joint statement on Tuesday endorsing a bid they say would "embody our passion for women's football and proud commitment to equality and fairness."

"Football is the game that connects us all. We sincerely hope that an Australia-New Zealand FIFA Women's World Cup will bring us all together again in 2023, when

we can all celebrate humanity, community and unity through football," the prime ministers wrote in the joint letter to the FIFA Council.

New Zealand is part of the Oceania soccer body that has three FIFA Council members.

But New Zealand Football President Johanna Wood is ineligible to vote at the online meeting.

"One of the questions raised or comments made in the evaluation report was, it is a challenge across co-hosting of countries," Wood told The Associated Press recently. "But I think what we have demonstrated through the Rugby World Cup (and) the Cricket World Cup, that we have done these events before."

"So we are well placed to manage it across confederations, as well as across different countries. The travel has





# Knicks to interview Kidd for coaching post



**NEW YORK**—Jason Kidd has close ties to LeBron James and Giannis Antetokounmpo, who can both become free agents in 2021.

Think that appeals to the Knicks, who are always desperately chasing stars?

According to Marc Stein of The New York Times, the Knicks have requested and received permission to in-

terview Kidd for their head coaching vacancy.

The Lakers reportedly made Kidd the NBA's highest-paid assistant coach. That honor and success like the Lakers are having this season typically open the door for head-coaching interviews.

But after coaching the Nets and Bucks, Kidd comes with baggage—interpersonal issues, dated thinking and a mixed record of player development.

Kidd improved from his early days coaching Brooklyn. He might have continued to improve his coaching ability since Milwaukee fired him. Kidd was such a smart player, he still holds promise as a coach.

If the Knicks think he's the best person for the job, they should hire him. If they believe he'll lure LeBron or Antetokounmpo, the Knicks are wasting their time.

Most likely, New York will decide neither is the case and hire Tom Thibodeau.

Meanwhile, the timing eventually worked out for Troy Weaver and the Detroit Pistons.

The Pistons introduced Weaver as their new general manager on a video conference Monday. The former Oklahoma City Thunder ex-



AP  
In this Dec. 29, 2019 file photo, Los Angeles Lakers assistant coach Jason Kidd talks to LeBron James during a break in their NBA game against the Dallas Mavericks in Los Angeles.

Griffin. Weaver mentioned Griffin and guard Derrick Rose immediately when asked about Detroit's roster.

"Those guys have had some injury history, and they're looking forward to building their careers back, so that stood out. Excited to get them healthy and help us move forward," Weaver said. "Then the second piece of it is the young players on the roster—Sekou (Dombouya), (Luke) Kennard, Bruce Brown, Svi (Mykhailiuk)."

Weaver did not want to discuss forward Christian Wood because of his free agency.

The Pistons announced the hiring of the 52-year-old Weaver last week. He spent the past 12 seasons with the Thunder, including three-plus years as vice president of basketball operations. He served eight seasons as vice president/assistant general manager.

Weaver, Gores, Casey, Stefanski and Pistons vice chairman Arn Tellem were all on the video conference Monday. (AP/NBC)

ecutive joins a Detroit team that was interested in him previously—and he takes over a GM spot that was vacant for a couple years.

"We had actually tried to talk to Troy a couple years ago. OKC wasn't quite ready to let him go," Pistons owner Tom Gores said. "So he's been on our radar for a while."

The Pistons shook up their front office two years ago. Stan Van Gundy had been the coach and team president, and after Detroit moved on from him, there was no official GM. Ed Stefanski took over the front office, and Dwane Casey was hired as coach.

Now Weaver will fill the

GM role, with Stefanski remaining as a senior advisor to Gores.

"Troy, Ed and Dwane will work on a day-to-day basis with each other," Gores said. "Troy will have normal, and even higher than normal, GM responsibilities."

Weaver said he felt loyal to the Thunder and wanted to help bring a championship to Oklahoma City—but he thought now the fit was right with the Pistons.

The Pistons haven't won a playoff game since 2008, although Weaver described the situation as a "restoring" and not a rebuild. The Pistons went 20-46 this season and traded

Andre Drummond in February. They hope to have more flexibility going forward.

"We didn't have a lot of cap room at the time when Ed came on, so we felt like we really needed to clean things up," Gores said. "I think he did a great job. ... The reason Ed did not come on as GM, we had decided that Ed was going to be one level kind of above that, and that we needed to leave that spot open for our next 10, 15 years, for somebody like Troy."

Although the Pistons dealt Drummond and bought out point guard Reggie Jackson, they still have an expensive star on the roster in Blake

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Damien Brown) both went the distance (three rounds), the next two were decided in the second round (defeat to Geoff Neal and victory over Nick Hein), while the recent two finished early. In his first three UFC matches, Camacho earned Fight of the Night honors.

While he waits for his next call to the UFC stage, the Team Oyama standout would like to thank all his supporters.

"Thank you to everyone who tuned in. For all the love and support win, lose, or draw. I'm so blessed to have a great support group. I am so thankful for the opportunity to be able to do what I love during these times," Camacho said.

## NMI

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ways about financial help. Just being there and supporting what your kids would like to do goes a long way. I am fortunate that I have my mom who made it possible for me to play college soccer," said Guine Borja.

Enrico Del Rosario, Sunjoon Tenorio, Thaiph Austria, and Dai Podziewski were as lucky as Borja, as their parents also had their backs as they continue their soccer and educational journey in college. These players' parents paid for memberships to recruitment websites, some had their children visit prospective schools, and all were a voice of reason when things started to get tough.

For players who have challenges getting their parents support, Borja said help is always available from the community.

"You have the entire CNMI soccer community backing you up. You can ask help from the FA (Northern Mariana Islands Football Association) your coaches, clubs, and even fellow players, who have gone through the same recruitment process," said Borja, who will have her rookie season with Navarro College.

## Motivation and confidence

One of the challenges in going



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Guine Borja, right, joins her supportive mother, Patricia Coleman, for a photo after the CNMI Women's National Team defeated Guam in the 2018 Marianas Cup at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

through college recruitment is getting rejections, not once, but many times. But don't be discouraged.

"Keep on trying and you'll find the right school for you," Podziewski, who will be on his second season with Suffolk University.

Del Rosario added that one should use the rejection as motivation to get better and prove that you belong to play in the

collegiate ranks.

Having and keeping your confidence up when you go out there and battle tough players, physically and mentally, is also crucial.

"Have the mentality that you can keep up with them. Have the confidence that you know how to play and help the team," Tenorio said.

"I remember when we're young, Guine and I played



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2014 file photo, CNMI Women's National Team players, coaches, and supporters celebrate the men's national squad's historic triumph over Macau in the 2015 EAFF East Asian Cup at the Guam Football Association Training Center.

futsal and every time we lost, she would cry. So I told her, that's not the way to deal with a loss, we have to be stronger and better. That goes the same when you are trying to play in the collegiate league or any level, always have confidence," he added.

Podziewski also said that even though CNMI players come from a small island that should not make them feel inferior from others.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2012 file photo, Gabi Race, right, battles a Guam player for possession.

"We are trained by professional and great coaches so we

know how to play in a competitive level," Podziewski said.





MLB to impose  
60-game  
slate amid  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Brady pushes  
up Bucs'  
workout level

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# NMI players tout support group

## Back to drawing board for 'The Crank'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Defeated but not crushed.

After a quick loss, Frank "The Crank" Camacho is swiftly getting back on his feet to prepare for a better showing and redeem himself from the beating he suffered in UFC Fight Night 173 last weekend.

Camacho fell (TKO) to Ultimate Fighting Championship newcomer Justin Jaynes just 41 seconds into their lightweight bout at the UFC Apex in Las Vegas, Nevada last Saturday night (Sunday on Saipan). The Marianas pride, after the loss, returned to Guam and resumed his training yesterday.

"I was beat down. But I am not broken. It's going to take a whole lot more to break any island warrior down. I'm done crying and feeling sorry... upon arriving back home I got straight to work—on the bag, on the bike, and back to training with what I got," said Camacho.

"Like every loss in my

career, it's been tough, but I have to pick myself up and fix the mistakes I've made. We will be back. Just a little bump on the road. Downshifting, ready to pick up speed and CRANK IT UP again soon," the 31-year-old fighter said.

There's no word yet on Camacho's next date at the octagon cage, but last weekend's duel with Jaynes was just the first of his four-fight deal with UFC. He has absorbed back-to-back losses and holds a 2-5 card overall since debuting in the premier MMA promotion company in 2017.

The match versus Jaynes, a last-minute replacement for Matt "The Steamrolla" Frevola, was also Camacho's quickest in UFC, surpassing the 2:02 fight time (first round) the latter had in UFC Fight Night 162 last year when he lost (rear-naked choke) to Ben-nell Dariush. Camacho's first two UFC fights (loss to China's Jingliang Li and win over Australia's

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In this 2018 file photo, the community rallies behind the CNMI National Team during a game against Guam in the Marianas Cup at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Two-time CNMI Women's National Team member Gabi Race found it silly seeing his dad, Jeff, at the sidelines of the Oleai Sports Complex Field, holding a video camera and filming her games.



Those awkward moments for Gabi turned out to be a big help later when she attempted to join a college soccer team, as her dad's video footage proved she has what it takes to play in the collegiate ranks.

"During those times, games were not filmed yet, so I am really lucky that my dad took video of my matches," said Gabi, who was among the guests in last Saturday's Episode 6 of Footcast with Norman and discussed the college recruitment process she and five others went through.

Footcast with Norman host Norman Del Rosario added that video footages are important since scouts would not often come here to see CNMI players and will instead rely on game clips. Nowadays, Del Rosario added, the islands' players are fortunate that technology is available making access to game footages easier and giving scouts/coaches more opportunities to shop for talents.

Going back to Gabi's dad "filming days," this kind of support from the players' parents made the intricate and difficult recruitment process for CNMI bets bearable.

"Parents' support is not al-  
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank "The Crank" Camacho resumes training in Guam after last weekend's loss to Justin Jaynes in the UFC Fight Night 173 at the UFC Apex in Las Vegas, Nevada.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sunjoon Tenorio, right, seen here playing for Suffolk University, will continue his college soccer journey as he suits up for Warner Pacific University next season.